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The second year of India's independence was crowded with activity. In spite of the many problems resulting from partition, India has overcome her difficulties by courage and determination. In the words of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, "India now emerges again in the main trend of human affairs."

This volume gives a brief account of the achievements of the last twelve months. Part I is based on official reports of the activities of the various Ministries. Part II has been contributed by writers who are experts in their respective fields.

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PEACE FOR PROGRESS

There are immense tasks ahead, especially in the economic field, and if Government is to succeed in improving the economic conditions in the country, it is essential that there must be complete peace and order It is my desire and it is my ambition to produce those conditions, so that this country of ours can settle down to the tasks of peace with as much enthusiasm single mindedness of purpose and devotion to duty as the conditions demand

—The Hon ble
Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

DURING the last year the Home Ministry had to deal with communal organizations and other anti-social elements which were becoming a menace to public peace The Ministry considered legislative and administrative methods to prevent communal organizations from engaging in any activities other than those essential for *bona fide* religious, cultural, social and educational needs of the community Pending the adoption of the new constitution, the Ministry decided that no notice should be taken by the Government and its officers, local bodies, state aided administrations and the like of petitions or representations on

political maters from communal organizations and no government grant in aid or patronage in any form should be given to communal organizations which participate in political activities

The influx of large numbers of refugees from East Bengal into Calcutta and other parts of West Bengal became a serious problem To explore the possibilities of settling these refugees in such places as were not already congested the Secretary of the Home Ministry of the Government of India toured the Andaman and Nicobar islands in December 1948 Following this official visit non official representatives from West Bengal and East Punjab inspected these islands A departmental committee was then set up to submit a carefully worked out plan for their development by refugees from India A team of experts has been sent *to investigate the possibilities of development*

The Indian Civil Service has since the transfer of power and the partition of the country been weakened as out of about one thousand I C S officers more than 600 either retired or opted for Pakistan Makeshift arrangements were made to keep the administration functioning and then a large scale recruitment was organized to fill the gap The temporary arrangements made at the Centre included the creation of a general administrative reserve consisting of selected war service candidates and experienced temporary officers A Special Recruitment Board was set up for emergency recruitment to the Indian Administrative

Service This Board has held interviews in most of the Provinces A training school for the new officers was opened in Delhi and two groups of officers have already been trained

The Indian Police Service suffered a similar depletion Two groups of war service candidates recommended by the Federal *Public Service Commission* were selected to fill the gap A Central Training College has been opened temporarily at Mount Abu The training given includes instruction in the use of special types of firearms and wireless communications and also on scientific matters related to police work

World War II and the events that followed caused a tremendous expansion of the Central Secretariat staff, from 609 in 1939 to 2947 in 1948 This expansion combined with quick promotions brought about deterioration in the quality of work Another consequence of war time expansion was the mushroom growth of temporary staff As many as 2217 out of 2306 Assistants in the Central Secretariat were in a temporary cadre in 1948 Insecurity of tenure affected their efficiency adversely

A scheme of reorganization is being implemented which embraces all posts of the Central Secretariat from Assistants to Under Secretaries According to the scheme there will be four groups, Under Secretaries Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents and Assistants The two lower groups are being recruited

directly. Twenty five per cent of the posts of Assistants have been reserved for clerks who will be promoted and the balance is to be filled on the basis of the results of the Federal Public Service Commission examination. Fifty per cent of Assistant Superintendents will be recruited on the basis of results of the combined examinations held by the Federal Public Service Commission for the Indian Administrative Service and the Central Services Class I and the balance will be filled by promotions. The top grade Superintendents and Under Secretaries will be selection posts.

Under the Central Secretariat Service scheme a method has been formulated to inculcate a sense of security in the large number of temporary employees. It is proposed to issue declarations of eligibility for quasi permanent service to such of the temporary employees as have put in three years of satisfactory service and are considered suitable for continued employment. The suitability of a temporary employee will be decided on the basis of the qualification required for the post and the willingness and capacity of the person to discharge the duties of his post. His character and moral bearing will also be taken into account. An employee who is declared eligible for quasi permanent service will obtain the same treatment as a permanent government servant in the matter of tenure, allowances, leave and discipline. On confirmation this quasi permanent service will also count for pension in addition to half of the preceding temporary service. In the event of retrenchment he will be entitled to gratuity

equal to half a month's pay for each completed year in the quasi permanent service and also to any discharge of benefits in respect of his preceding temporary service

A Secretariat Training School was opened in 1948 to give training to Assistants selected by the Federal Public Service Commission and two week refresher courses were given to groups of Superintendents and Assistants in Charge

The Transfer Bureau set up immediately after partition to help absorb surplus personnel from Pakistan was also entrusted with the task of finding employment for refugee government servants coming from the N W F P, Baluchistan and Sind Up to February 1949, effective registration in the Bureau amounted to 10,004 Of these 8,100 were absorbed

It proved a difficult task to provide higher posts for lawyers and others recommended by the Employment Coordination Committee which was set up to coordinate the functions of the Transfer Bureau with those of the Employment Exchanges and the Special Employment Bureau Yet out of 195 candidates thus registered 124 have been placed A special course of training was provided in the Secretariat Training School for 100 refugees to enable them to adapt themselves to the work in government offices

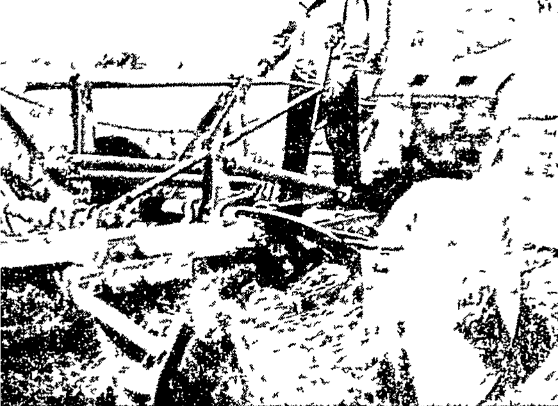
FOR RICHER HARVESTS

I feel that in the interest of this country agricultural production ought to be given the topmost priority as it is also in the interest of industrial development of the country. Unless agricultural wealth increases there can be no production for further progress.

—The Hon'ble
Sri Jairamdas Daulatram

THE Ministries of Agriculture and Food are doing their utmost to ensure bigger and better harvests in the country and a more adequate distribution of foodgrains so that by 1951 India becomes self sufficient in food.

In the main provincial governments look after the work of food production. The work of the Ministry of Agriculture at the Centre relates to coordination and research in regard to crop production and plant protection, irrigation facilities, improvement of live stock, dairy, fisheries and fruits, and conservation of forests and soil.



A tractor in operation

The total procurement of foodgrains in 1948 amounted to 2,184,000 tons as against 1,842,200 tons procured by April, 1949. A subsidy of Rs. 265,200,000 is estimated to be paid by the Government of India during 1948-49 to make up for the sale of imported foodgrains to the public at rates lower than cost price.

During 1948 over 280,000 tons of foodgrains imported from abroad were moved to deficit areas in addition to 476,000 tons procured from internal sources. On an average about 40 foodgrain ships were handled

monthly at different Indian ports. During 1948 Australia was the largest exporter of foodgrains to India with [illegible]09,000 tons; the U.S.A. came next with 6[illegible]7,000 tons.

Of Rs 1,[illegible]00 million spent by India on the purchase of foodgrains from abroad in 1948, Rs 430 million were spent in dollar areas and the balance in the sterling area.

The third Indo-Russian Food Agreement provides for the supply of [illegible]00,000 tons of wheat and 20,000 tons of maize to India, and these imports were expected to arrive in India by the end of July 1949. In exchange India is to give to Russia [illegible]0,000 tons of raw jute and [illegible]000 tons of tea. The first and second Indo-Russian Agreements of last year provided for 1[illegible]1,000 tons of wheat to be sent by Russia in exchange for Indian tea, jute and castor oil.

Not only is food to be produced and procured but it must be quickly moved to areas where it is needed. The transport of internal surplus from one province to another and of imported grain involves the movement of about 10,000 wagons per month.

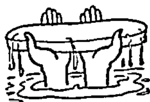
Rationing stops the race for the survival of the richest, but once rationing is undertaken, procurement becomes inevitable. While it is true in a general way that the greater the procurement in a province the greater is its contribution to the solution of the food problem, yet the more correct way of looking at it is


Irrigat on

Rs 1,200 000


Fertilizers

Rs 715 700 000


Cost of Reclamat on Scheme

Rs. 1,213,600 000

to judge the achievements of a province by the extent of its demand on the Central Government for imported foodgrains. It is worth remembering that every 28,000 tons of foodgrains demanded from the Government of India by a deficit area means that the Central Government has to spend Rs. 10 million in foreign exchange.

India's food problem is threefold. The present deficit must be met immediately. The deficit increases year by year because of a greater increase in population which has been generally increasing at the rate of 1% every year. At this rate in 1953 the population will be 367 millions, in 1958 38[illegible] millions and in 1963 407 millions. India has to provide not only for increases in population but also for better nutritional standards. Any plan of food production has to take cognizance of these three aspects. The Ministry of Agriculture has therefore drawn up a comprehensive scheme to increase the food production in the country, the main features of which are reclamation of six million acres of cultivable land, survey of 4,6.. deep tube-wells to irrigate three million acres of land, supply of chemical fertilizers and increase of fish supply. This aims at increasing permanently the food output at the end of the year period by 4 million tons. The total cost of the scheme is estimated at about Rs. 2,710 million.

The Ādarsh Seva Sangh at Pohri in Gwalior has undertaken one of the most notable non-official experiments. A few years ago it initiated a regular scheme

to intensify cultivation in a unit of seven villages round Deoli centre. A series of remarkable achievements have been made both in the way of extensive and intensive cultivation. The organization has now drawn up schemes to extend the production drive to cover the entire area of 220 villages.

Of the official measures adopted to increase food production, special mention must be made of the Central Tractor Organization which has undertaken mechanized cultivation in large tracts of weed infested lands in the Central Provinces, Madhya Bharat, East Punjab and the United Provinces. During the year six units of 15 tractors each reclaimed 32,306 acres in the United Provinces and the Central Provinces. The quantity of the first *kharif* yield from an area of 24,806 acres in the United Provinces was 11,615 tons valued at Rs. 2,044,810. Eleven units of 150 tractors are now working to reclaim 100,000 acres. 245 light tractors carried out mechanical cultivation of nearly 20,000 acres. A programme to reclaim 65,000 acres partly in what was the Matsya Union and partly in East Punjab was to be completed by the middle of 1949. In Madhya Bharat 1½ million acres will be reclaimed during the next seven years. In all, 140,000 acres are to be ploughed up in Madhya Bharat, 100,000 in the United Provinces, 90,000 in the Central Provinces and 50,000 each in Bombay, Orissa, East Punjab, Bhopal and Vindhya Pradesh and 40,000 in the East Punjab States.

Tube wells are a quick method to provide irrigation

facilities in areas where large projects are not feasible. A vast construction programme to drill 4 tube wells will be implemented during the next three years in East Punjab, the United Provinces and Bihar. The total number of wells to be constructed in these Provinces in the next three years is as follows:

Province	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	Total
East Punjab	400	4 0	600	1 4 0
U. P.	41	0	8 3	1 91
Bihar	400	400	400	1,200
	1 1	1 00	1 8 0	4

To construct these wells the Central Ground Water Organization maintains a Central Drilling School where instruction is provided in mechanical drilling method. The number of Drillers and Drilling Engineers who have completed their course are 67 and 1 respectively. Another class started training on November 15, 1948.

The Government of India has established a Fertilizer Pool from which fertilizers allocated by the International Emergency Food Council or produced locally are distributed to Provinces. During 1948 480 0 0 tons of compost were prepared from urban refuse in 66 centres and 1 9 8 9 6 tons from village refuse at 27 9 0 centres. The additional yield of foodgrains on this account is estimated at 30 4 tons.

A total quantity of 170,000 tons of compost from town and village refuse prepared by the Provinces through grants made by the Centre, was distributed to cultivators during the last year. The estimated production for this year is 290,000 tons. Against the demand of 293,671 tons the Central Government imported from abroad and distributed 150,400 tons of ammonium sulphate. This year about 75,000 tons are expected to be produced locally.

The Plants Protection section of the Ministry combated successfully several outbreaks of pests and diseases in different parts of the country. Pyrilla pest and red rot disease of sugarcane, rice grasshopper pest in Bombay, *Phadaka* pest in Ajmer-Merwara, monkey menace in the Orissa coastal delta, the blight disease of potatoes in Bengal were successfully combated. In Bombay about 7,410 tons of paddy worth Rs. 2,200,000 and in West Bengal 27,935 tons of potatoes worth Rs. 4,200,000 were saved.

The Indian Veterinary Research Institute undertook to supply vaccine on a semi-commercial scale. Roughly Rs. 900,000 worth of biological products covering rinderpest, goat tissue virus, rinderpest goat virus, *ranikhet* disease vaccine and sheep and goat pox vaccine were supplied. Five hundred breeding bulls were supplied to various *goshalas** as a preliminary step towards the reorganization of the country's

*Goshala — cow shed

goshalas and *pinjrapole* † into cattle breeding and dairy farms. A five year plan to increase milk production for the whole of India has been drawn up and will be implemented by provincial governments. This scheme is expected to increase the milk yield by ten per cent within five years. The Government took immediate steps to relieve the acute scarcity of fodder in famine affected areas of Cutch and supplied 4 000 tons of groundnut cakes and ? 3 tons of hay from the Central Provinces, Bhopal and Sandur States.

The Central Rice Research Institute was set up at Cuttack for fundamental research on rice and a scheme to establish a Potato Research Institute is under consideration. The reorganization of the Andaman Forest Department has been going along steadily and when completed will result in an annual yield of 40 000 tons of timber.

A grant of R[illegible] 750 000 was made to the provincial governments to help reduce sugar cane prices. A sum of R[illegible] 500 000 was sanctioned to expand the Indian Institute of Sugar Technology.

The Indian Central Cotton Committee has evolved a five year plan to increase the present production of cotton by 400 000 bales of medium staple varieties. The Jute Committee has planned a three year scheme which envisages the setting up of ten 300 acre seed multipli-

†Pinjrapole — [illegible]

cation farms in the jute growing Provinces of West Bengal, Assam, Bihar and Orissa Steps are being taken also to produce jute in other parts of India where the soil and climatic conditions are favourable and it is expected that this will result in an additional annual production of 750,000 bales of jute

An experimental cattle breeding farm was started at Jubbulpore to carry on cross breeding under control so as to evolve a general utility type of cattle with a higher degree of efficiency both as regards work and milk About 200 animals have been purchased from Pakistan and transferred to the farm at Jubbulpore

The Indian Agricultural Research Institute New Delhi, has been conducting experiments to improve the Sahiwal breed of cattle A cow kept under controlled conditions in this dairy produces as much milk as ten village cows

The Government of India has planned a Fishery Scheme which proposes to set up a chain of well equipped Pilot Fishing Stations along both the coasts of India at Bombay, Cochin, Vizagapatam, Chandbali, Calcutta and other suitable stations Each station will have a cold storage plant with a capacity of 500 tons and refrigerator motor vans to carry fish to inland markets by road A large cold storage plant for fisheries is being set up at Bombay In the course of the next few years it is proposed to set up three fish mills and fish oil plants as well as a prawn cannery

Training facilities are provided in various Institutes under the Ministry—the Indian Agricultural Research Institute at Pusa, the Indian Veterinary Research Institute at Mukteswar, the Institute of Fruit Technology at Delhi, the Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun—and by specialized courses such as the Fisheries Training Course, Plant Protection Course and the like. The Agricultural College which was set up in Delhi in 1947 has 1[illegible] students in the first, second and third year classes. The fourth year class will be opened next year.

The third International Forestry and Timber Utilization Conference for Asia and the Pacific was held in Mysore in March-April 1949. Representatives from forty-eight nations attended the Conference. The main resolution emphasized the need for a planned effort at re-afforestation and soil conservation. India offered the use of the Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun with all its facilities to Asian and Pacific countries.

RAIL, ROAD AND RIVER

'Transport is vital to modern economic life and among many forms of transport railways easily take the lead Of the inter Indian traffic that offers for movement, the overwhelming bulk of 80 per cent of goods and 70 per cent of passenger traffic is carried by rail

—The Hon'ble Sri Gopalaswami Ayyangar

MEANS of transport are a nation's life lines All kinds of essential commodities move along them In order to achieve *maximum coordination of all forms* of transport and to bring transport planning and execution into line with agricultural and industrial development schemes, the Government of India organized the Central Board of Transport on which there are three cabinet ministers

In relation to industries the Central Board of Transport decided that full transport facilities should be provided for steel, textiles and cement It gave equal attention to the planning of coal movements as

in their aspect of the national use of existing transport resources. It was agreed that the target for the movement of coal from Bengal and Bihar coalfields should be fixed at 00 wagons per day. In order to relieve the strain on railways coal was also moved by sea. The total quantity of coal shipped from the port of Calcutta rose steadily from 1 7 9 tons in February 1948 to 7 019 tons in October 1948. Indeed the year 1948 witnessed a record coal shipment of 1 731 000 tons inland and 6 000 tons overseas.

The steady progress in the movement of goods traffic has not only been maintained but has been considerably increased during this year. In December 1948 0 special trains were run. Important among these trains were 101 for imported foodgrains 47 for general goods 43 for manganese ore for cement for iron and steel and 41 for firewood hay chemicals and cotton. During April 1949 727 special trains were run as against 480 in March. Important among these were 160 for foodgrains 89 for general goods 34 for manganese ore for salt 20 for cement 13 for sugar 12 for fodder and 9 for iron and steel.

Whereas on March 31 1939 there were 3 4 million passengers travelling every month on Indian railways on March 31 1948 there were 88 million passengers while owing to partition there were about one thousand less carriages.

Between April and November 1948 4 million more

train miles were operated than during the corresponding period in 1947 Steps have been taken to construct more coaches From April 1, 1948 to November 1, 1948, 172 four wheeler coaches were completed in railway workshops and 272 coaches are now in process of construction A hundred improved type of Class III all metal coaches equipped with electric fans are being made by the Hindustan Aircraft, Ltd A few of these have already been delivered Orders have also been placed for 250 coach body shells with the Wagon Manufacturing Panel, and in the U K for 112 electric multiple unit suburban coaches Two hundred and fifty one broad gauge coaches have been returned by the Ministry of Defence since April 1, 1948

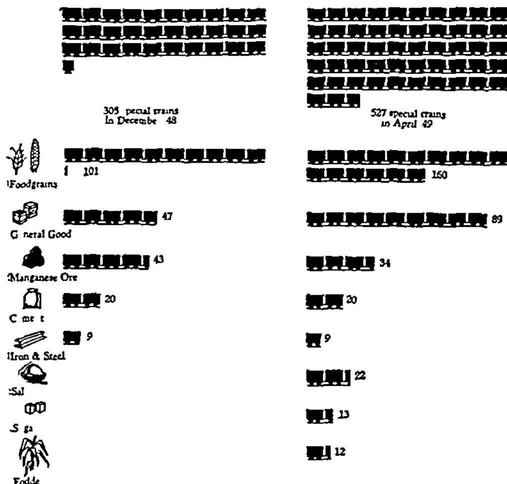
The shortage of locomotives constitutes a serious bottleneck in the working of India's huge railway system which has been completely dependent on foreign industry for locomotives and machine tools Orders have been placed abroad for 863 engines For the manufacture of locomotives, work is proceeding apace on the Chittaranjan Project worth Rs 140 million The Chittaranjan workshops are designed to build about 120 steam locomotives and 50 spare boilers per year working single shift Together with the Tata's Locomotive Factory they are expected to make India self sufficient in this A modern township with the ancillary services has been planned to accommodate six thousand families for the present Provision has been made for furture expansion should need arise Each colony of the township will be self contained to a great extent provided

with shops, schools, children's playgrounds and communal amenity centre. The ancillary services will consist mainly of electric power, water and sewage and health services.

Electric fans are being fitted in third class waiting halls and platforms are being covered at important stations. Arrangements have been made for the cleaning of coaching stock and station premises and for adequate supply of water. It is expected that from year to year a large majority of passengers will enjoy greater travelling amenities.

Another problem which confronted the Transport Ministry after partition was the coordination in northern India of inland water transport with railway and road. Considering the problem in relation to other multi-purpose requirements, the Board recommended the investigation of the Ganges Barrage multi-purpose project which besides bringing vast tracts of uncultivated land under the plough will provide within the Indian Dominion a direct all-year-round navigation route between Calcutta and the Ganga. The Board has taken up the question of organizing a water-borne goods service on the lower Ganga up to Allahabad. Traffic surveys, project and factual information are being called for on the navigability of rivers.

The Kandla creek in the gulf of Cutch is being surveyed in order to develop it as a major port. India has launched a large scale programme for the develop



ment of her ports and ship building yards The over all plan envisages the extension of the ports of Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, and Cochin, the establishment of shipping corporations and the setting up of naval bases The ship building yards at Vizagapatam are to be expanded and new ones constructed at Bombay, Calcutta, and Cochin Naval bases are to be established at strategic points on the coast and on island positions

around India The Government has sanctioned Rs [illegible]0 million for the expansion and modernization of major ports When the work is completed Indian ports will be able to handle [illegible] million tons of cargo annually as against [illegible]0 million tons today

The Transport Ministry one of whose main activities is the strengthening of the country's transport resources is also responsible for making new roads It has an expert body the Roads Organization which has as its objective the development of a comprehensive system of national highways and road communications The total mileage of national highways is about 13 300 out of which [illegible]400 miles are in the Indian States These include the Grand Trunk Road North (Delhi Amritsar Pakistan border) Grand Trunk Road East (Delhi Agra Kanpur Calcutta) the Bombay Madras road the Calcutta Madras road and the Banaras Cape Comorin road The Transport Ministry has an ambitious scheme for the extension of national highways The expenditure target for the five years ending 19[illegible]53 is Rs [illegible]0 million in the Provinces and about Rs 10 000 000 in the State

The development of motor transport in the country has been taken up with great enthusiasm Almost all the Provinces have formulated schemes for the reorganization of motor transport For this purpose the Governments of Bombay Madras the United Provinces the Central Provinces and Orissa have enacted legislation amending the Motor Vehicles Act of 1939

Bombay and Madras want to set up a Statutory Transport Board and to enable them to do so the Central Government has passed the Road Transport Corporation Act, 1948, which empowers provincial governments, who may so desire, to enact regulate and if necessary wind up transport corporations A beginning was made in Delhi when the Gwalior North India Transport Co was taken over by the Government of India under its new name, the Delhi Transport Service It is being operated departmentally by the Ministry of Transport pending the formation of a Corporation

A HIGHER STANDARD OF LIVING

Commerce is not an end in itself but only a means to an end. The object which we have set before ourselves is to improve the standard of living of our people.

—Sri C. C. Desai,
Secretary, Ministry of Commerce

THE main activities of the Commerce Ministry are to promote and regulate India's trade with overseas countries, to develop Indian shipping, to collect statistics, to administer Company Law, to negotiate trade agreements with foreign countries and to realize reparations.

Among the trade agreements concluded with various countries special mention may be made of the one with Japan in view of the size and extent of India's pre-war trade with that country and of the need to resume commercial relations for mutual advantage.



In an Indian shipyard Work in progress on a new trawler

The arrangement is for one year ending June 30, 1949 and provides that all trade between Japan and the Commonwealth countries should be conducted on a sterling basis Japan is to export goods worth about £27,500 000 and import a wide range of raw materials and other goods and services worth about £23 000 000 India's share in this trade consists of exports to Japan worth £4 2 million and imports from Japan worth £8 6 million

The main inter dominion conference between Indi and I aki tan was held in Karachi in May 2 1948 and it was agreed that India would receive among other *things raw cotton raw jute and foodgrain* while Pakistan would receive coal steel paper mustard oil cloth and yarn This agreement ended on June 30 1949 and a new agreement has been entered into for the current year

As a result of talk with the Belgian Economic Mission which came to India a short term trade agreement was concluded which gives India a supply of scarce commodities like steel and non ferrous metal *from Belgium in exchange for exports from India of* manganese and jute

The trade agreement between India and Yugoslavia provides for the import from Yugoslavia of commodities like maize cement asbesto sheet plywood tea chest soft wood newsprint etc while India will supply in return jute cotton manufactures linseed oil tea and coffee Customs charges port dutie etc will be regulated between the two countrie on the basis of reciprocity

India's trade with the Anglo American zone of Germany consists of the export of jute oils and oil seeds spices hides and skins manganese ore mica shellac and wood and imports from Bizonia of chemicals and related products sheet and plate glass machinery and metal products instruments and apparatus and steel

Among other countries of Europe, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Switzerland, Finland and Hungary can meet India's requirements of essential goods and India has already entered into trade agreements with them.

Trade delegations were exchanged between Afghanistan and India and an agreement is soon to be concluded to remove the restrictions on the free movement of goods between the two countries. A delegation from Iraq visited India to stimulate Iraq's trade in dates and the opportunity was taken to discuss the question of the supply of barley from Iraq to India and of cloth and jute goods from India to Iraq. It is hoped that when the Iranian Government amends its Import Control Act it will be possible for India to export cotton piece goods and jute manufactures and import agricultural products, dry fruits, copper, lead and manganese. Among the countries with which India is having trade parleys are Russia, Italy, Iran, Ceylon, Tibet and the Philippines.

In August, 1948, the functions of the Tariff Board of the Government of India were augmented. Besides its previous functions it will now recommend to the Government measures necessary for the protection of Indian industries from foreign dumping. It will undertake studies on the effects of *ad valorem* and specific duties and tariff valuations of various articles and the effects of tariff concessions granted to other countries and report to the Government on companies, trusts, monopolies and other restrictions on trade which may tend to affect the industries enjoying protection. It

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will also keep watch over protected industries to ensure that conditions attached to the grant of protection are fully implemented and that protected industries are run efficiently

In order to expand export trade Indian products have to be publicised abroad One of the important



activities of the Commerce Ministry has been to participate in International Trade Fairs and arrange for the display of Indian goods in different parts of the world. An Indian Trade Exhibition was organized in Singapore. India participated in the Milan Fair in Italy, the Canada National Exhibition and the British Industries Fair.

The question of publicity involves research and collection and interpretation of statistics. The Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics compiles and publishes commercial statistics. He also collects information regarding the financial standing and reliability of Indian firms and of export and import trade communities. The settlement of disputes between commercial firms in this country and firms abroad is also part of his work. The *Indian Trade Bulletin* is an important fortnightly publication.

Another significant agency to promote India's foreign trade is the Indian Commercial Intelligence Service. Abroad Commercial representatives have been appointed at Karachi, Dacca, Rio de Janeiro, Frankfurt, Berne, Lisbon, Bangkok, Vancouver, Rome, Baghdad and Aden in addition to the existing trade representatives at London, Sydney, Toronto, Mombasa, Colombo, Buenos Aires, Paris and Berlin. The Trade Commissioner's office in Rangoon and Tokyo have recently been revived. A Commissioner General for Economic and Commercial Affairs has been appointed for Europe with the rank of an ambassador with his headquarters in Paris to promote Indian trade interests on the Continent.

As part of the export drive steps have been taken to replace the present Indian Tea Market Expansion Board by a body called the Tea Committee for India. This Committee is intended to secure increased sale of tea, promote research relating to tea at all stages of

the industry, collect statistics, fix grade stanwards and render assistance to the industry in all practical ways

Measures have already been taken to decontrol the export of over two hundred commodities, strengthen commercial representation abroad, and afford priority assistance for the movement of goods intended for export The Ministry of Commerce is opening show rooms in the offices of Indian representatives abroad for the display of Indian commodities and hopes to set up an organization similar to the British Export Trade Research Organization so as to ensure a certain optimum standard for goods exported

Jute goods are being licensed for export to hard currency areas It has been decided to export 900 000 bales of raw jute to hard currency areas during 1948 1949 Quotas of linseed and groundnut have been set apart for hard currency areas and licences are to be issued freely provided applicants produce evidence of sale in these areas There are no restrictions on the licensing of cloth for export to hard currency areas Quotas of 2,000 tons of light weight raw hides and 150 tons of sheepskins have been set apart for export to hard currency areas and their export is prohibited to soft currency areas

To facilitate the participation of Indian shipping in the overseas trade of this country it is necessary that two or three shipping corporations be formed on a state cum private ownership basis The first corpora

tion of which the Scindia Steam Navigation Company are the Managing Agents will be registered and start functioning this year The Indian Embassy in Washington has already been asked to explore the possibility of securing suitable ships for the Corporation Negotiations are being carried on in the United Kingdom through the Indian Trade Commissioner for the purchase of suitable vessels from the sterling area

The Indian Steamship Company was admitted to the India/U K /Continental Conference The Scindia Steam Navigation Company was also admitted to it on the basis of eight ships of each Company The Scindia Steam Navigation Company has also been admitted as a member of the India North America Conference and is operating a regular service When the Mission of the International Bank came to India the Commerce Ministry raised the question of obtaining a loan for the purchase of ships from dollar areas either on Government account or on account of private companies with Government guarantee This was necessitated by the fact that it is difficult to secure suitable tonnage from the sterling area

When the British Indian Steam Navigation Company stopped its Tuticorin Colombo service the Government of India assisted Messrs Air Steamer and General Agencies Limited a company sponsored by the Madras Government to obtain a suitable cargo cum passenger vessel to ply on this route The first service of this vessel was inaugurated early this year by His Excellency the Governor General

The value of German external assets in India chargeable to India's reparations account is about Rs 26,128 000 which has been divided between Pakistan and India in the ratio of 17½ per cent and 82½ per cent respectively German assets physically located in the territories of Pakistan and those which can be released only under the authority of the Pakistan Government have already been devested in India so that they can be revested in the Pakistan Custodian The value of category 'B' assets, consisting mainly of plants and machinery allocated to the Indian Union, is estimated at Rs 13,865 564 For the sake of convenience the head quarters of the Reparations Adviser have been shifted from London to Brussels and placed under the administrative control of the Commissioner General for Commercial and Economic Affairs in Europe

The question of Japanese reparations is still under the consideration of the Far Eastern Commission, on which India is represented, but no decision has yet been made regarding the shares of the claimant countries

PRODUCE AND PROSPER

The Government's policy is directed to the removal of scarcity and the creation of plenty and in the meantime to make the best use of production and imports by regulating distribution and controlling prices in the interest of the consumer

—*Sri S. A. Venkataraman*
Secretary, Ministry of I. & S.

THE ravages of the last world war are to be seen not only in Hiroshima and Nagasaki but in the economic conditions of almost every country in the world. By August 1947 the decline in production had assumed disquieting proportions and the situation was reviewed at a conference of representatives of industry, labour and provincial and State governments. Following their recommendations strenuous efforts were made to secure better conditions for improved production. These steps were successful inasmuch as the fall in production was definitely arrested and taking industry as a whole there were definite signs of improvement. The Ministry

of Industry and Supply has done much to remove transport difficulties, to secure and distribute raw materials in short supply to obtain the services of foreign technicians and to disseminate technical information, and industry in general has appreciated the assistance

In April, 1948, the Government of India formulated its industrial policy on the basis of the recommendations made by the Industries Conference According to this policy, the Central Government assumed certain important responsibilities besides those for the development and regulation of industry in general In fact, the Government announced its intention to step in and stimulate development with regard to any industry which was not being properly developed by private enterprise Hence the Ministry has been engaged in preliminary work for the establishment of certain important industries either directly by the Government or under its auspices In view of the importance of the projects and the heavy capital outlay involved it has been considered necessary to obtain the best expert assistance available in the world to advise on matters, such as facilities necessary for the location of factories, transport requirments, nature of plan, raw material implements, cost of production and the like

India's most urgent need is the expansion of steel production Three firms of consulting engineers of international repute have completed their study of this subject and have presented reports embodying their recommendations These are now under examination

and action is expected to be taken shortly Arrangements have been concluded with two firms for the preparation of similar reports for the manufacture of heavy electrical equipment in the country Three foreign concerns have been entrusted with the task of preparing a scheme for the manufacture of radio and radar equipment The contract will soon be signed for the manufacture by the Government of dry core telephone cables A factory for the manufacture of penicillin sulpha drugs and paludrine will be set up in the near future Arrangements are being made for the repair and reconditioning of surplus machine tools and machines received as reparation as well as for the establishment of factories for the manufacture of machine tools and diesel engines The Ministry is considering the question of setting up a factory for the manufacture of tractors of a type suitable for the requirements of the country

If the Government is to succeed in industrializing the country and in improving the economic condition of the people it must act continuously in close contact with all interest concerned For this reason the Govern ment has always sought the advice of advisory bodies not [illegible] policy but for its implementation also The Central Advisory Council for industries is the most important of these Bodies and under its auspices a series of Development Committees have been formed to deal with particular industries The Government of India recognizes the great importance of understanding the problems of labour in relation to

industry and the association of labour wherever necessary in the framing of policy This association, which started with the Industries Conference of 1947, has been maintained and there has been a distinct improvement in the relations of capital and labour during 1948

In view of the new textile policy of the Government of India it was decided to abolish the Textiles Advisory Board The excessive weightage given to producing interests on the Board was corrected and the Committee at present comprises eleven millowners, three members of the Legislature, five representatives of handloom weavers, and representatives of wholesale traders in cotton, retail dealers in cotton and in mills tores The new policy of progressive decontrol and control over cotton textiles and raw cotton has raised the production of cotton textiles, but at the same time increasing the prices of raw cotton and cotton textiles After consultations with provincial and State governments and the Textiles Advisory Committee, the Government decided in August, 1948, to reimpose full control over cotton textiles and raw cotton During 1948, 4,340 million yards of cloth were produced the highest figure since 1945

To maintain full production India needs to import about 1¼ million bales of cotton per annum of which nearly one million came before the partition from what is now Pakistan This year India is entitled only to 650,000 bales Measures are therefore being taken to bring about 1¼ million acres under cotton cultivation

since cotton is not only more remunerative to the grower than foodgrains but will earn or save foreign currency which could be used to import foodgrains from abroad

In 1948 two new mills came into production and several old ones renovated their plants and increased their capacity It is expected that during 1949 six more mills will start working The manufacture of textile machinery is being taken up in this country and two companies with foreign technical assistance have been formed The handloom weaving industry which is India's most important cottage industry has since 1939 been faced with a serious shortage of yarn The increase in production of yarn during 1948 gave some relief to the industry As a measure of relief the Government decided to license the export of handloom cloth to all destinations during the first half of 1949 Further the Government has decided to constitute a special fund with an initial grant of one million rupees to encourage handloom products

Control over iron and steel was imposed during the war mainly to ensure regular supplies for defence and essential civil needs After the war control over distribution was withdrawn and in 1947 the system of distribution was changed to suit peace time conditions This system is still in force and according to it consumers are classified into nine broad categories defence railways industrial maintenance and packing steel processing industries government development

schemes, private industrial development schemes, refugee housing schemes, the general public and export, and the available steel is distributed after careful scrutiny of the demands To assist provincial governments to scrutinize applications all coordinating and sponsoring authorities have been directed to send to provincial governments quarterly statements showing the actual allotment made Thus, provincial governments are directly or indirectly associated with the distribution of all quotas of steel (except those for defence, railways and export) *i e*, about 132,000 tons per quarter

In order to ensure that a fair proportion of steel is made available for agricultural purposes, the provincial quota has been divided into two parts, namely "Agricultural" and 'Non Agricultural" and the former has been placed for distribution at the disposal of the Ministry of Agriculture

During the financial year 1949 50 it is hoped that the supply position will tangibly improve A firm order of 136,000 tons has been placed with Belgium and if exchange conditions permit it is hoped to place further orders later in the year India expects to obtain about 200,000 tons of steel from America, 30,000 tons from France and 100,000 tons from the United Kingdom

Apart from rendering all possible assistance to the main existing producers to expand their works, the Government has taken steps to establish new factories

f ı thı pı ›luctı ın of one mılhon tons of steel The three expert onsulting fums of internıtional repute who were engaged in the second half of 1948 have ompleted their survey and their reports are under Government s c nsideration

The problem of maintaining coal raising at a level sufficient for the needs of the country was solved large ly by the first quarter of 1947 Since then the coal shortage felt by the consumer has been due to diffi culties of transport In 1948 therefore in addition to the Coal Advisory Committee a Coal Transport Advi sory Committee was established to advise Government on the day to day problems of coal transport A com mittee was also formed to give advice on how assistance could be rendered to over stocked collieries Coal rais ing in 1948 amounted to 29 700 000 tons as against 30 000 000 tons in 1947 but despatche amounted to 6 100 000 as against 2 100 000 in 194 If the present improvement is maintained it is hoped that the pit head stocks will be reduced to normal in the course of 1949

To exploit new coalfields t
survey in order to serve the
Pathakhera and Koba in t
Hutar in Bihar Proposals f
Kamptee coalfield in the C
Garo Hill coalfield
sideration of the
The development of

to increase the output of coal by one million tons per annum

The production of paper showed an increase of about 300,000 tons in 1948 The scarcity of paper however is still acute in spite of the fact that imports are being allowed freely Newsprint is almost wholly imported and till early 1948 largely from the dollar area In order to conserve stocks and to regulate consumption restrictions have continued on the number of pages and the price of newspapers But with greater imports in the latter part of 1948 from sterling areas coupled with a satisfactory stock position newsprint has now been decontrolled

The production of cement increased from 1 044 000 tons in 1947 to 1 560,000 tons in 1948 This is considerably less than the installed capacity which is about 2 000 000 tons Two new units came into operation in 1948 It is expected that by the end of 1949 new production capacity to the extent of 1 000 000 tons per annum will be in operation Today the Central Government confines itself to the allotment of cement for central purposes requirements of the railways and the Central Public Works Department and of big organized industries like coal, textiles chemicals, sugar and the like The balance is allotted to the Provinces to meet the requirements of the provincial governments local bodies and the general public

During the later part of 1947 there was an acute

carcity of salt in the country because of the failure of monsoon in Bombay increasing transport difficulties and the loss of Khewra salt mines in Pakistan The situation was brought under control by encouraging increased production imports and rationalizing distribution In 1947 the salt duty was abolished From April 1948 free manufacture without any kind of restriction was allowed to units not exceeding ten acres in area All licensed manufacturers were exhorted to increase production and facilities of transport and technical guidance were provided As a result the indigenous production of salt in 1948 was about twenty per cent above that of 1947

The Sindri Fertilizer Factory has been designed to manufacture 350 000 tons of ammonium sulphate per annum It will work on the gypsum process and when complete is expected to be one of the largest of its kind in the world Constructional work is making satisfactory progress In broad terms more than half the total work is complete The operational staff of the factory will consist of about posts down to the grade of foreman Twenty three of the recruits are now undergoing specialist training in the U K and the U S A Arrangements are in hand to procure from Jodhpur and Bikaner the gypsum necessary for the running of the factory The project is estimated to cost in the neighbourhood of Rs 160 million

The Hindustan Aircraft Ltd Bangalore is a private limited company in which the Government of



An engine being fitted in a Tiger Moth at the Hindustan Aircraft factory at Bangalore

India owns two thirds of the shares represented by a capital investment of Rs 11,666 600 and the Mysore Government has one third of the shares The factory was taken over from a private firm in 1942 and handed over *to the U S A Army Air Corps for war purposes* Since the end of the war it has been serving as an overhaul, assembly and conversion depot The total strength of the factory now is about 6 100 By an

arrangement with the Percival Aircraft Company of the U K it is manufacturing for the R I A F thirty Prentice trainer aircraft besides fifteen aircraft from components imported from the United Kingdom A design and equipment section under an Indian expert was added to the factory this year This section is doing useful work in designing indigenous type of aircraft

The Mathematical Instruments Office in Calcutta started in 18_0 as a small repair and service depot for the instruments used by the Survey of India but has new begun to manufacture all kinds of precision instruments mechanical optical electrical aircraft etc

Certain statutory and non statutory Boards are administered by the Ministry of Industry and Supply Each Board is entrusted with the duty of looking after the interest of a specific industry and to advise the Government about major problems relating to it The Coffee Rubber Silk and the Cottage Industries Boards exist today The Government is doing its utmost to revive and foster Indian cottage industries and to organize these as cooperative ventures so as to maintain rural economy on a sound basis and encourage rural talent

The total value of purchases made by this Ministry in India and abroad during 1947 48 amounted to about Rs 9_0 million purchases from April to October however totalled Rs 9 0 million After partition two new

factors led to a very considerable slowing down of disposals The first arose from a revised estimate of the requirements of the Defence Services and the second from the need to conserve material and equipment for the rehabilitation of displaced persons

The marketability of any commodity or product, particularly in a foreign market, depends upon standardization of production, simplification of type to a minimum, the acceptance by industry of specifications which guarantee quality and facilitate sale and production, and the maintenance of these standards in production so as to win the consumers' confidence in the quality and price of the product The Indian Standards Institution was set up in 1947 to encourage the maintenance of standard specifications and the adoption of quality control methods by industry It has organized councils in three major fields of industry namely, textiles, engineering and chemicals The Institution has participated in international conferences and has been entrusted by the Council of International Standards Organization with the task of drawing up standard specifications for shellac and mica

THOSE WHO TOIL

Nothing will deter me from securing to the worker what is his legitimate due because on his sweat and toil depend the life of the community.

—Hon'ble
Sri Jagjivan Ram

THE epidemic of country-wide strikes towards the end of 1946 seriously threatened to undermine production and emphasized the need for special measures to ensure justice to the worker. The result was a concerted tripartite effort which ended in the Industrial Truce resolution. Thereupon a Central Advisory Council of Labour was constituted consisting of representatives of the Government, employers and workers. The main object of the Industrial Truce resolution was to promote better relations between management and labour and greater production all round. An important measure to secure this object was the setting up of

Industrial Tribunals to adjudicate on disputes referred to them by the Government. Two such Tribunals were appointed, one at Dhanbad and the other at Calcutta and others will be set up in industrial centres according to requirements.

Although the success of the Industrial Truce resolution may not seem spectacular, it has certainly helped to improve relations between labour and management. Whereas in 1947 there were 1,811 strikes and lock-outs involving 1,840,784 workers and a loss of 16,562,666 man-days, in 1948 there were 1,634 strikes involving 1,318,222 workers and a loss of 8,037,532 man-days.

Industrial Tribunals have been set up by provincial governments also but there is no machinery for the coordination of the awards of Tribunals. This has given rise to complaints of disparity in the decisions of the various Tribunals. The Labour Ministry at the Centre proposes to introduce legislation as early as possible to revise the existing Industrial Disputes Act. It is proposed to incorporate in the Bill suitable provisions for the constitution of a Central Appellate Tribunal with jurisdiction over all tribunals set up in the country. This will ensure uniformity in the matter of awards.

The need for an industrial housing scheme has engaged the attention of the Government for some time past. Proposals for an integrated country-wide scheme

of industrial housing have been worked out and the Government has decided to make funds available for the starting of the scheme though on a smaller scale than originally contemplated Meanwhile a loan of Rs 20 million has been sanctioned for the Government of Bombay which has made considerable progress in its housing scheme Further the Ministry of Labour has set up the Coal Mines Labour Housing Board to undertake the construction of 50 000 houses for miners in coalfields About 850 houses are nearing completion and it is hoped that another 1 000 houses will be constructed next year

The Employees State Insurance Act (1948) was placed on the Statute Book during the last Budget session It provides health insurance maternity and employment injury benefit as well as medical care for over two million industrial workers The Employees State Corporation which was established last year will administer the Act and steps are being taken to launch a pilot scheme for the centrally administered areas of Delhi and Ajmer Merwara in the first instance The Central Government will contribute a grant equal to two thirds of the expenditure on the administration of the Corporation for the first five years

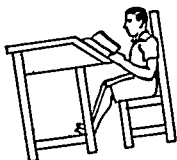
The Factories Act (1948) was another important legislative measure placed on the Statute Book This revised Act consolidates the law regulating labour in factories and incorporates many new provisions relating to the safety health and welfare of workers Draft



Health



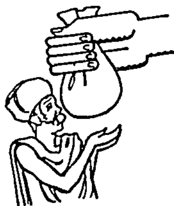
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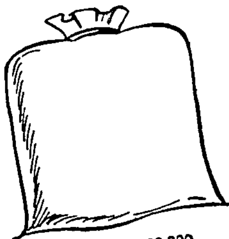
Education



Rs 16 000 000



Social Insurance



Rs 47 400 000

model rules and regulations prepared by the Labour Ministry at the Centre have been circulated to provincial governments so as to secure uniformity in the administration of the Factories Act Steps have also been taken for the implementation of the Minimum Wage Act passed early last year The Ministry of Labour is in correspondence with provincial governments for the purpose of formulating rules and setting up the requisite machinery Another measure of great interest to workers is the Coal Mines Provident Fund and Bonus Scheme Act under which the payment of bonus and the provision of Provident Fund in collieries have been placed on a statutory footing Up to January 1 1949 a sum of nearly Rs 4 00 000 was distributed as bonus and a sum of over Rs 800 000 was contributed by employers towards the Provident Fund account of colliery workers

The Labour Ministry has three other important measures in preparation The Labour Relations Bill which will replace the existing Industrial Disputes Act contains several new features such as provision for Standing Labour Courts and an Appelate Tribunal and for the encouragement of negotiations and collective bargaining before the declaration of strikes The amendment of the Indian Trade Unions Act is contemplated The Mines Act is proposed to be modernized so as to be brought in line with the recently enacted Factories Act

At present no reliable data are available for prepar

ing welfare schemes for agricultural labour. As minimum wages have to be fixed before 1951 an agricultural labour enquiry will be undertaken by the Government as early as possible. A survey will be conducted in 1,800 villages in the country.

The Government is cognizant of the serious problems of forced labour. An officer has been placed on special duty to study the existing legislative measures and all available literature on the subject and to submit a report. When the report is submitted and examined, necessary legislative and administrative steps will be taken by the Ministry to eradicate the evil of forced labour.

Industrial committees on cotton textiles, coal, cement, plantations and tanneries made some headway in improving the conditions of work in their respective industries and in bettering relations between employers and workers.

The Government of India participated fully in all international conferences on labour held during the year and shared the honour of having one of its official delegates on the International Labour Conference elected as the Chairman of the Governing Body for the year 1948-49.

During the last few years India has seen the birth and growth of a new institution, the National Employment Service. The nucleus of an Employment

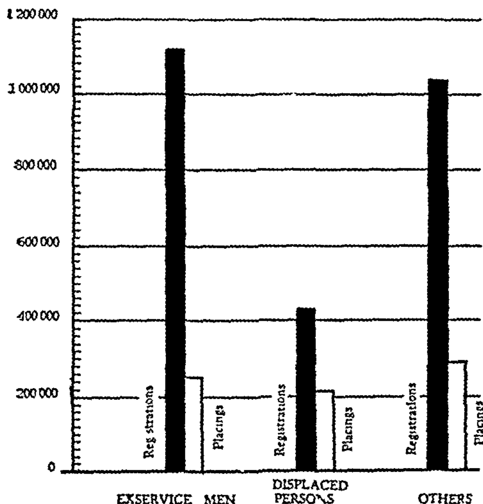
Service was started in the shape of National Labour Tribunals to meet the growing needs of the expanding war industries. Post-war demobilization created another problem and the machinery of the Employment Service set up in war time was reshaped, expanded and set in motion in 194? to deal with the problem of the resettlement and employment of ex-Servicemen and discharged war workers. Thus was brought into being the Resettlement and Employment Organization of the Ministry of Labour.

While the Resettlement and Employment Organization was still in its infancy it was subjected to all the difficulties and problems consequent on the partition of India in August 1947. There arose a grave national emergency as a result of the exodus of very large numbers of refugees from Western Pakistan. This created a problem of resettlement which was of tremendous dimension. The whole Organization was switched over with remarkable speed to this new and urgent task. The Exchanges and the Training Centres were thrown open to displaced persons, the entire resources of the Organization being mobilised to cope with the situation. Till May 1949 4 ~01_ displaced persons had registered themselves with the Exchanges in India and employment was found for 10? 8?3.

Though its achievements in the field of resettlement and employment of ex-Servicemen and displaced persons have been substantial, the Organization's success with regard to the employment of civilians

CUMULATIVE REGISTRATIONS & PLACINGS

(July 1945—May 1949)



irrespective of any class or category, has been no less spectacular Employment Exchanges in India have extended their scope and now they are open every where to all who seek their assistance The following

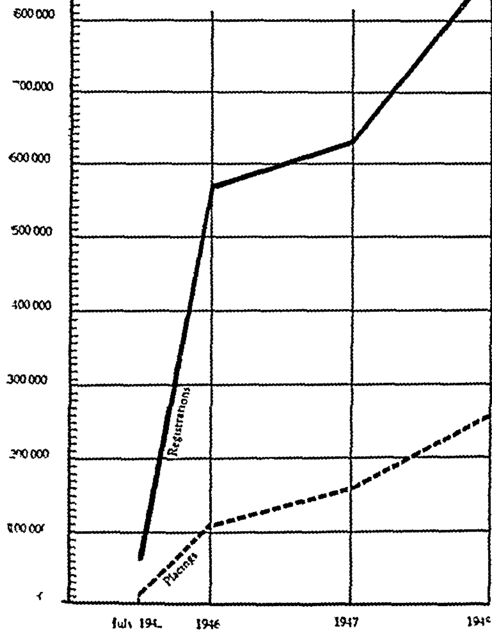
figure will how the progre s of reg1 trations and placings from year to year

	Registrations	Placings
194 (July to December)	51 30[illegible]	9 80
1946	69 8 [illegible]	10[illegible] 08
1947	[illegible]9 361	161 374
1948	870 904	260 088
1949 (January to May)	4 3[illegible] 7	117 37
	2 [illegible]3 0	[illegible] 4 987

The grand total of re[illegible] tratio s and placings shown above i constitut d a under —

	Registrations	Placings
Ex Servi men	1 11[illegible] 783	[illegible]910
Di place l per on	1 4 01	10[illegible] 8[illegible]
Other	1 038	89 904
	2 [illegible]3 0	[illegible] 4 987

The Central Government as well as mo t of the provincial governments have already recognized the Employment Exchange as the normal channel of re cruitment to the service under their control except in re pect of th e po ts which are filled on the advice of the Federal/Provincial Public Service Commis sion or on the basis of the results of competitive examinations Nor have private employers lagged behind The following figures will show how the



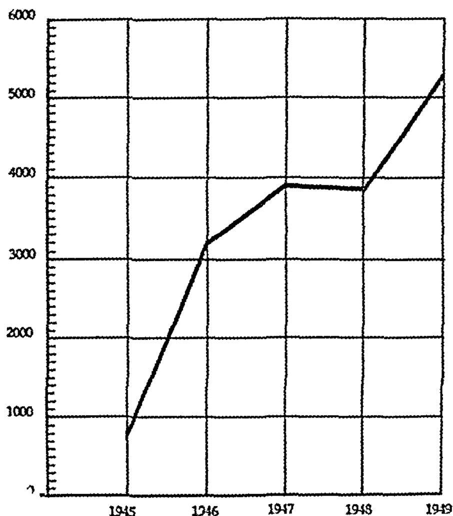
REGISTRATIONS & PLACINGS
600 000
500 000
400 000
300 000
Registrations
Placings
1946
1947

number of employers using the Exchange has steadily increased

194	01	Employer
1946	3 18	
194	3 84	
1948	3 8 J	
194)	74	

After overcoming initial handicaps the Exchanges are gradually establishing themselves in the employment market and are able to cater for the prevailing manpower needs of public and private projects of various kinds During recent emergencies in 1948 and 1949 the Exchange took an active part in the recruitment of the Defence Services personnel They have been arranging bulk supply of labour for the various dams roads and other projects of Central and provincial government In East Punjab the Exchanges helped in the dispersal of refugees from relief camps to work centres By arranging bulk supply of labour to employers even at short notice and under difficult conditions the indifference prejudice and mistrust which characterized the outlook of private employers towards the Exchanges in the earlier stages are gradually being overcome The Labour Depot at Gorakhpur sends out on an average 20 000 workers every year to the coalmines in Bihar West Bengal the Central Provinces and Hyderabad besides supplying workers to public works projects in the United Provinces

NUMBER OF EMPLOYERS USING EXCHANGE



There are at present 34 Employment Exchanges in India, each covering an area of 4 to 5 revenue districts. District Employment Offices have been opened in some of the Provinces to extend the benefits of the service to a large number of employment seekers. Madras has 16 and East Punjab 8, while the United Provinces has

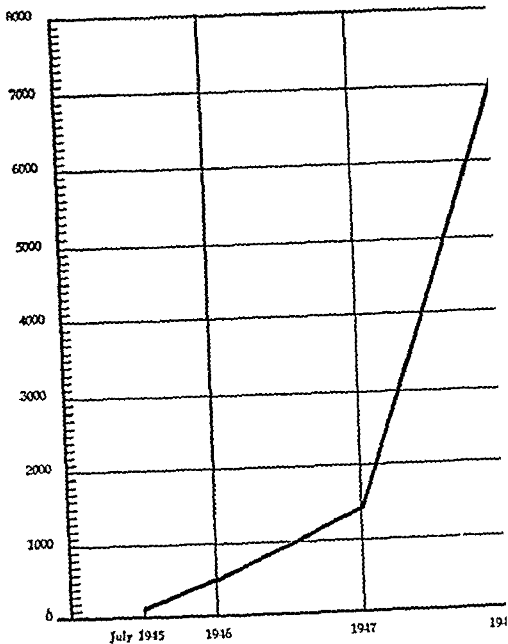
_0 Bil u will shortly have 11 Di trict Employment Office As an additional device to overcome the handicap created by long distance mobile Exchange travel about whenever there is a recruitment drive or a special demand for labour This brings the employment service to the very door of the unemployed and employer

Today each Exchange has a Women's Branch This has resulted in a steep rise both in the registration and placing of women The following table shows the progress of placing of women year by year

1914	(July to Dec)	–)
1946		43
1947		131
1948		19
1949	(January to May)	(31
		14 6

Another direction in which the Exchanges have made headway is the employment of applicants in higher wage groups Each Exchange has an Appointment Branch which deals with superior categories of the unemployed

Labour in India has always complained against corruption and exploitation by middleman and jobber in the recruitment of workers to various industries Through these Exchanges a frontal attack has been launched on this vicious system



NUMBER OF WOMEN PLACED
8000
7000
6000
5000
4000
3000
2000
1000
0
July 1945
1946
1947

The Employment Service in India has tripartite Advisory Committees associated with it at all levels, national, regional and local. The tripartite principle of representation follows the pattern of the I.L.O. which provides for the association of the representatives of employers, workers and the Government with all bodies created under the I.L.O. plan.

It is not possible to get a clear perspective of the Employment Service in India without reference to its Training Schemes which are not only an essential complement to the Employment Service but also represent the first planned effort on a national scale to bring technical and vocational training within the reach of a large mobilization of one of the most vital productive resources of the nation, its man power, for its utilization in the best interest of the country's economy. There are at present 79 Technical and 97 Vocational Training Centres in India. Added to these are 3[illegible]6 Apprenticeship Training Centres to which qualified trainees are posted for further training on actual production work under factory conditions. In addition, there are 3 centres for the war disabled and 1 centre for displaced women. So far 105,470 trainees have been posted to these Training Centres, of whom 8[illegible],193 were ex-Servicemen and 23,[illegible]7 refugees. Training for women is provided at a Centre in New Delhi. This Centre started with the training of ex-Service women but in February 1948 it was converted into one for the exclusive training of displaced women and has [illegible]8 such women on the roll.

As a long term plan, to meet the paucity of technicians and craftsmen, a Central Institute for training instructors has been opened at Koni Bilaspur in the Central Provinces It is a cooperative effort in which the Centre, the Provinces and industry are participating to ensure a high standard of training to instructors drawn from all quarters, who in their turn will pass on their knowledge and skill to craftsmen under their charge The Institute also provides a refresher course to keep instructors aware of the latest methods of production and teaching

The range and variety of the products of the Centres have been wide and large The Central Exhibition of such products in New Delhi has on show over 3 000 samples ranging from trifles and toys to Indian assembled radio sets, and precision instruments

The Training Scheme of the Ministry of Labour will receive further impetus as a result of the I L O 's programme to help Asian countries in the development of technical training The I L O has recently opened its Asian Field Office in India

THE GREAT DISPLACEMENT

There is to my mind no surer and quicker way of rehabilitation than the one shown by the Father of the Nation — the way of self help and mutual co operation the way of more productive callings and vocations rather than of parasitical professions and speculative trades and business the way of cottage and small scale industries and self sufficient towns and villages

—The Hon'ble
Sri Mohanlal Saxena

SOON after partition [illegible]00 000 people suddenly caught in a furious avalanche of hate were forced to leave their homes in Pakistan and migrate to India This displacement was without any plan and resulted in untold suffering to millions There were at one time [illegible]80 000 displaced persons in 1[illegible]4 camps all over the country Even today there are some 800 000 displaced persons in camps and their maintenance costs the Exchequer as many rupees per day Approximately Rs 1[illegible]0 000 000 have so far been spent on relief and rehabilitation

The money spent on relief includes loans and grants to students in India and abroad to complete their studies and about Rs 170,000 have thus been spent. The Central Government undertook the cost of primary education for the children in camps and arrangements are being made for secondary education The Government has repeatedly impressed upon the provincial and State governments the imperative need to resettle the displaced inmates of camps so as to reduce to a minimum the number of able bodied persons on doles Hence it has decided to convert these camps into work centres and as far as possible to place these in charge of reliable non official organizations

The Government of India is devoting special attention to the Harijan refugees A separate section was set up in the Ministry of Rehabilitation in March, 1948 To resettle these Harijan refugees, about 1,000 quarters are under construction in Delhi Gujerat and Saurashtra These colonies include commodious common halls, schools well equipped dispensaries and bazars About 15,000 of those who were peasants have now been resettled on agricultural land in the fertile tract of the Ganga Colony in Bikaner State, about 1,000 in Bharatpur, Alwar and Dholpur about 2,000 in Saurashtra and about 4,000 in Cutch They have been given loans to the extent of about Rs 500,000 Free ration is supplied till they are able to raise the first crop About 10,000 Harijan refugees in Jodhpur State and 2,000 in Ajmer are engaged in leather tanning and shoe making About 16,000 in Gujerat 8,000



Lo t d t
I d d b d



Rs 1 00 000



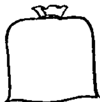
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R 3 000 000



T l p dt
h f so far



R 160 000 000



E pe d t
H g hem



R 165 800 000

in Udaipur, 2,000 in Bikaner and 800 in Jaipur work as masons, carpenters and weavers. Several multi-purpose cooperative societies have been opened for various types of activities. About 1,100 refugees have found work at the Bombay Docks and more than 1,000 persons have been employed at Delhi.

Another important question which engaged the attention of the Government was the care of unattached displaced women and children. The Women's Section of the Ministry of Rehabilitation has been busy grappling with this problem. There are at present more than 20 homes for the 5,000 unattached women and children in various parts of the country. There are 9 work centres in Delhi where over 2,600 women earn wages and nearly 1,300 women are given training in such useful arts as spinning and embroidery, calico printing, typing and stenography, basket making and willow work. So far about Rs. 40,000 have been paid as wages to the workers.

The Women's Section has found foster parents for a number of unattached children, while for others a training centre has been opened called "Bal Niketan" which provides a 7-year course in basic education for 230 children. There is also a training centre for women social workers with 82 trainees. Encouraged by the result of the experiments at the Centre, Women's Sections are being set up in the Rehabilitation Ministries of the different States and Provinces.

In the middle of 1948 a conference of Premiers of

Provinces and States was held in Delhi to discuss and formulate general principles of rehabilitation. Agreed decisions were made in regard to allocation of displaced persons to different Provinces and States, the creation of a separate provincial portfolio for rehabilitation, the establishment of Women's Sections, the expansion of existing towns and cities and the building up of new townships, the hiring of *bona fide* lo[illegible]es on a basis of [illegible]0 [illegible]0 on loaning and other approved rehabilitation schemes, and the provision of vocational training.

Several cooperative societies have been started in different places all over India. The Central Government started a training centre at Delhi for cooperative organizers. About [illegible]0 candidates have completed training and their services are now being utilized in Delhi and the various Provinces and States for explaining cooperative principles to refugees and stimulating cooperative action among them. Nine cooperative societies such as housing, medical aid and public health, vegetable farming, brick kiln, thrift and credit, industrial, dairy, etc., are working in the Province of Delhi alone and loans to the extent of Rs. 91[illegible],900 had been advanced to them till the end of December 1948.

The Government of India has also sanctioned a scheme under which one refugee medical practitioners' polyclinic, six allopathic health centres, two homeopathic clinics and two ayurvedic centres are proposed to be opened in Delhi. The centres are expected to be

self supporting in about three months To begin with an advance of Rs 70 000 has been sanctioned for the purpose

The Government of India is devising ways and means to promote cottage and small scale industries, while arrangements have been made for allotment of disposal stores to refugees and cooperative societies on payment These stores are valued at about Rs 10 million, and comprise machines machine tools hand tools textile stores and other consumer goods This will help refugees to start small scale industries

The Neelokheri experiment has revealed the initiative and enterprise of these displaced persons About 2,000 of them from the Kurukshetra camp have converted 500 acres of jungle into a model self sufficient colony The workers of this colony are self supporting and earn on an average Rs 50 to 60 a month Mention may also be made of a new experiment in collective farming at Neelwati farm in Alwar State They have been given the facility of tractors and have been able to stand on their feet in less than six months

There are also the Tehar Scheme and the Arab ki Sarai Scheme in operation The Tehar Scheme aims at setting up a model village for about 1,000 families The settlers will be helped to supplement their income from agriculture through subsidiary cottage occupations The centre at Arab ki Sarai provides vocational and technical training to 300 displaced persons



tor tug es

R 330 500 000 — pent last year

Rs 200 000 000 — for current year

Rs 100 000 000 — for next year

In order to achieve speedy results and to secure effective cooperation of the various Ministries at the Centre a committee of the Cabinet has now been formed of which the Prime Minister himself is the chairman

This committee will see to it that rehabilitation schemes are implemented with the utmost expedition Special officers have also been appointed in each Ministry to deal promptly with questions of rehabilitation

To secure effective coordination between the Centre and the Provinces and States, and to expedite implementation of schemes of rehabilitation, five Regional Directors have been appointed for the following zones namely East Punjab, and the East Punjob States, Bombay and the Central Provinces and their States, the United Provinces and Bihar Delhi, Ajmer and Rajputana States, and West Bengal, Assam and Orissa

At the conference of Premiers of the Provinces and States the grave housing situation in the country was recognized and it was unanimously resolved that each Province and State should develop at least one township and wherever a camp site was available it should be developed into an urban settlement to provide facilities for gainful occupations The Provinces and States were also asked to explore all possibilities of suburban development on the outskirts of large towns and cities for the effective rehabilitation of the displaced It is estimated that 1 450,000 evacuees have been housed in buildings left by Muslim evacuees and in other existing accommodation There are still 750,000 urban evacuees who have to be provided with accommodation

The following is a statement of the housing plan for refugees in the different Provinces and States

R f g p o d d t		B t f p t l of h mes	
Delhi	11 000	Houses	3 648
		I lot	4 7 0
		T wnship	Three (I alk yi Sheik Serai and I aridabad)
		Recondition l barra ks	600
East Punjab	100 000	House	4 000
		I lots	6 000
		Town hip	One (Fari labad)
Patiala and F P State	10 000	Township	One (I ajpura)
United Provinces	1 (000	Hou	14 000
		Extension t town	Four
		Conver ion of 8 militar barracks	00 t n ments
Central Province	(000	Townships	Two
		Conver ion f militar barracks	1 000
Rajasthan	1 000	Hou e	300
		Town hip	One
			3 3 0 tenements
Jaipur	1 000	Houses	2 00
Jodhpur	6 000	Hou es	1 000

Ajmer	12 000	Houses	2 000
Matsya Union	8,400	Houses	1,400
Kandla	24,000	Houses	4,000
Bombay	180 000	Township	One (development of Kalyan military camp)
Bihar	1,800	Houses	300
Madhya Bharat	24,000	Houses	4 000
Vindhya Pradesh	20 000	Houses	2,500
Saurashtra		Houses	5,000
Kutch		Township	One (near Kandla)

The housing schemes that have so far received the approval of the Government of India will involve an expenditure from central revenues of about Rs 165 800,000 Nevertheless the Government of India has now fixed March, 1950, as the deadline by which all schemes for housing the refugees on the basis of a house *or a plot per refugee family should be completed*



Loans for rehabilitation



Rs 450 000 000

In the ise of di placed persons in rural areas the Central Government i giving necessary assistance in the form of loans for cultivation as well as advances for the provision of houses and wells implements and bullock seed and manure and a maintenance allowance for such period as may be necessary until the reaping of the first harvest In the case of urban displaced persons loans to the extent of Rs 3 0o1 100 have so far been advanced to refugees in the various parts of the country The Rehabilitation Finance Administration was set up with effect from the June 1 1948 to give financial assistance on reasonable terms to displaced persons to enable them to settle in business or industry The Administration entertains applications for loans of Rs 000 and over up to Rs o0 000 which may be raised to Rs 100 000 in the case of *cooperative societies or Joint Stock companies* Loan up to R 80 000 have been sanctioned so far and the total at the end of the current financial year may rise to Rs 10 million

Opportunity for technical and vocational training on a fairly large scale is also provided at *ad hoc* centres run by the Ministry of Labour and three centres set up by provincial and State governments The Transfer Bureau and the Employment Exchanges are at present generally catering for the requirements of displaced persons

Nearly all the Hindu and Sikh Government servants numbering about 138 1 1 who opted for India

have been absorbed in Central and provincial services while up to the end of April, 1949, about 103,000 displaced persons involving more than 367,000 dependents had been placed in employment through the Employment Exchanges

A definite procedure has been devised to make provisional payment of pensions and provident fund and for transfer of Savings Bank deposits, Cash Certificates and National Savings Certificates It has also been decided that the goods allowed to be moved by the evacuees from the Dominion to the other shall be exempt from export and import trade regulations as well as from export and import duties

On account of uncertain conditions in East Bengal there was an influx of non Muslims into West Bengal and the neighbouring provinces of Assam Orissa and Bihar It is estimated that about 2,000,000 displaced persons from East Bengal have moved into the Indian Union Large numbers are being provided for and schemes are being considered for their permanent rehabilitation The first band of 500 displaced persons from East Bengal has recently migrated to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Survey parties have reported that agriculture and industry can flourish in these islands

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

We are all partners in the great coopera tive enterprise of building a prosperous India
—The Hon ble
Sri N V Gadgil

In spite of heavy odds the Ministry of Works Mines and Power is planning and building houses dams and factories at great speed

The Central Public Works Department is one of the important sections of the Ministry of Works Mines and Power Easily the most outstanding achievement of this department in 1948 was the construction of the Jammu Pathankot road at a total cost of about Rs 10 million It was completed in record time and in a territory almost bordering on the theatre of war This road and the connecting bridge proved of immense



The Madhopur bridge on the new Jammu Pathankot road which links up Kashmir with India

value for India's military operations in Kashmir The refugee camps at Kurukshetra and Jammu, the Fertilizer Factory at Sindri the projects on the Kaukhai and Katjuri rivers in Orissa and houses for refugees in Delhi were other important undertakings Plans were made for the building of Greater Delhi and for the

cn truction of 200 officers flats 2000 clerks quarters and 1 00 peons quarters in Delhi Another big task before the Central Public Works Department is the development of about 200 acres of land in the south west of New Delhi for allotment to foreign diplomatic Missions in the capital Other important undertakings are reconstruction work in the Andamans the building of a new telephone exchange at Calcutta preliminary work for the construction of an alternative road to Lahore and the laying out of a park and the erection of a memorial at Rajghat

The Central Electricity Commission was constituted in March 1948 and was charged with the great responsibility of coordinating and furthering schemes of electric power development transmission and utilization throughout the country in consultation with the provincial and State governments The activities of the Central Electricity Commission fall under three categories planning utilization and commercial

The Damodar Power System has been the most important task of the Planning Division The first stage of this project costing approximately Rs 10 million has now been finalized Another important work carried out by the Planning Division was the design and layout of the power distribution system for the emergency irrigation project of the Bihar Scheme on behalf of the Bihar Government The Division has worked out a complete scheme for the Port Blair authorities to augment the power house capacity and

extend the distribution for general power supply and for the expansion of saw mills to exploit the timber resources of the Andamans

A study of the existing conditions of power supply in the Himachal Pradesh also engaged the attention of this Division and it is expected that in a year a complete picture of power supply in that area will be available In collaboration with the Railway Board, it is proposed to make detailed studies of the provincial power systems and the scope and extent of the railway electrification programme

The Utilization Division, besides making a study of rural electrification schemes in general carried out a detailed investigation in certain areas in the Central Provinces covering 16 019 square miles containing 800 villages and a population of 400,000 As a result of the proposals and estimates made by this Division it was decided that the rural electrification scheme as worked out by the Commission should be integrated with the major power development schemes in the Provinces

At the request of the Government of Assam the Commission investigated the scope of the electrification of certain areas in the Gauhati sub division of Kamrup district This project aims at supplying electricity to 77 towns and important villages in an area of 1 209 square miles The scheme is under the consideration of the Assam Government

For the purpose of planning a new railway a detailed report regarding the mineral resources and the types of industries to be developed in Ranchi and the adjoining districts was sent to the railway authorities at their request Proposals were prepared for the supply of power to the construction camp at Tilaiya (Damodar Valley Project) and also for the Bihar Government for the distribution of surplus Tilaiya power to adjoining mica mining areas

An estimate of the power requirements of the proposed railway electrification scheme from Howrah to Moghul Sarai and the steel factory in the Damodar Valley Corporation area were also worked out in consultation with the Railway Board and the Ministry of Industry and Supply respectively

One of the important items of work relating to the Utilization Division is the administration of the All India Reserve Pool of Electrical Generating Plant The plant procured by the Reserve Pool Organization during the year was effectively utilized for emergency grow more food projects in the United Provinces refugee rehabilitation schemes in East Punjab improving power shortages in Delhi and in certain areas of Madras and for providing construction power to priority government projects Although no fresh plant was ordered for the Reserve Pool during the last year the consignment of thirteen transportable power stations with an aggregate capacity of 99 0 kw arrived during this period and were despatched

to destinations as instructed by various provincial governments

In August, 1948, the Electricity (Supply) Bill was passed into law This measure empowers Provinces to set up semi autonomous Boards entrusted with the task of rationalizing the production and distribution of electricity The Boards will undertake the development of natural power resources in the Provinces and devote particular attention to extension of electric supply to rural and under developed areas The Boards are given wide powers to coordinate and direct activities of private undertakings and thereby achieve most of the benefits normally associated with nationalization without causing any interim dislocations or incurring the heavy expenditure which would be involved in nationalizing the whole range of the industry at one stroke

Cultivation is not possible in many parts of the country without irrigation India leads the world in the extent of area irrigated and many aspects of irrigation practice and technique Multi purpose river development on a regional basis has found great favour with the Central provincial and State governments to provide simultaneously for the control of floods, for the development of electric power, irrigation and navigation, for fish culture, the control of malaria and for recreational facilities For this purpose the Government of India has set up a strong technical organization known as the Central Water Power Irrigation and Navigation Commission The Commission has seven



Ci il A ation E p nsion

Rs 27,842,200



N t nal H g! w y

Rs 220 000 000



Ma m D l pme t

R 250 000 000

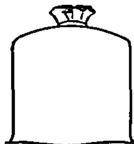


F ctori s

Rs 313 132 600



P w P oject



Rs. 1603 000 000

sections, each under a Director, to deal with irrigation waterways, navigation, hydrology, designs, publications, statistics and research. It has an uptodate information bureau and library on engineering subjects and publishes valuable material, for the information of engineers all over the country. An important activity of the Commission is the Research Station at Khadakvasla near Poona which is endeavouring to determine the best form of structures for the control and development of the rivers in the country.

During this year the Commission was entrusted with the construction of the Hirakud Dam Project on behalf of the Government of Orissa at an estimated cost of Rs. 471 million. It has also undertaken the construction of a road rail bridge at Sambalpur on the Mahanadi river at an estimated cost of approximately Rs. 12 million. This bridge on the highway from Bombay to Calcutta will facilitate the construction of the Hirakud Dam and works connected with it. The chief feature of this project is a dam across the main channel of the Mahanadi river 15,000 feet long of which 5,000 feet will be in concrete. The project when completed will provide irrigation to one million acres of land and cheap electricity to the extent of 350,000 kw.

The Kosi Project aims at harnessing the Kosi river. About 3,000 square miles of rich agricultural land which the river has laid waste will be reclaimed and irrigation will be extended to about three million acres

of new land The hydro electric works to be installed are likely to produce almost two million kw of electric power The entire cost of the project is estimated to be well over Rs 1 000 million

On the river Tapti investigations have been confined mainly to a project on the lower Tapti basin This project is divided into two stages The first provides for the construction of a barrage across the river 4(miles above Surat with canals on both banks commanding an area of 800 000 acres and the second provides for the construction of a dam to secure perennial supplies of water for irrigation Investigations are in progress for the development of the Narbada Valley At present there are four projects under investigation in the valley Preliminary reconnaissance of the Narbada river has revealed that it could be made navigable from the sea up to Hoshangabad a distance of four hundred miles

The hydraulic conditions of the Hooghly estuary have deteriorated and its navigational facilities are being maintained with increasing difficulty With the partition of the country the navigation route from Calcutta now lies 00 miles through Pakistan territory To remedy this it is proposed to construct a barrage at a site near Farakka combined with a rail road bridge over the Ganga

The Damodar Valley Project comprises eight multipurpose dams over the Damodar river and its tributa

ries which cover an area of approximately 8,000 square miles The project when completed will produce sufficient water to irrigate about 900,000 acres of land of which 1,866 acres are at present irrigated only partially Cheap power to the extent of 350,000 kw will be produced Other benefits to be derived from the project will be complete immunity from floods in the areas in which the Damodar river plays havoc in the rainy season Navigation will also be provided between the lower valley and the port of Calcutta

Much of the work of the Geological Survey of India forms the first stage of the planning of large projects This is particularly so in the case of engineering projects now under completion by the Central Waterways Irrigation and Navigation Commission the Damodar Valley Corporation and the provincial governments of large industrial projects such as the proposed new iron and steel plant the coal petroleum plant, the ceramic and glass industries which are now being planned and investigation of the location of deposits of uranium and other radio active minerals of strategic importance

Besides attending to the work of geological mapping the full programme of the Geological Survey of India for this period includes 211 special investigations These mainly relate to prospecting for oil coal and gypsum to investigations of dam sites water supply and underground water and to prospecting for minerals such as bauxite iron ore copper graphite mica

beryl, coal, diamond, manganese ore and raw materials required for glass and ceramic industries.

With the achievement of independence the Government felt the great need of statutory rules for the conservation of mineral wealth and for the regulation and grant of mineral concessions. Thus the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act was passed in September 1948. The Central Government has a [illegible] responsibility to coordinate the policy of the Provinces for mineral development and the issue of leases. The Central Government is also following an active mineral policy to control mining and the consumption of minerals of fundamental and strategic importance.

In order to advise and assist the Central Government the Bureau of Mines will have to inspect mines to effect general improvement in mining methods, collect data on all working and abandoned mines which will serve as a basis for planned development, plan for the recovery of the largest possible quantity to conserve mineral wealth, eliminate waste in mining processing and utilization, use modern methods of prospecting to locate mineral deposits, advise Central and provincial governments on questions relating to mineral concessions, royalty, rent, taxation, tariff and export policies, advise the mining and mineral industries in regard to the advance made in mining practice and technology, provide analytical and testing facilities for producers of and traders in minerals and issue test reports required by the trade.

The Indian School of Mines and Applied Geology at Dhanbad imparts high grade technical education in mining engineering and technology. During the last few years additional accommodation has been provided and the School has been reorganized on the lines recommended by the Reorganization Committee of the Indian School of Mines appointed by the Government in 1945. As a result, the annual intake of students has already risen from 24 to 48 and is eventually intended to be raised to 60.

In view of the need for trained personnel to work in a vast programme of electrical development in the country it was decided in November 1947 to send to the U.K., U.S.A. and Canada seven Indian engineers for a year's training in the large power systems. One engineer was selected from each of the Provinces of West Bengal, Orissa, the United Provinces, the Central Provinces and the States of Patiala and Jaipur and two from the Central Government. With the acute scarcity among Indian engineers of men trained in such specialized work and with the vast electrical schemes under consideration, the training of Indian engineers abroad will be of great benefit to the country.

CONQUEST OF DISTANCE

The developments of India's means of communication on modern lines which are contemplated are essential for a modern State and we should consider it our proud privilege to undertake and complete them. The country expects this of us.
—The Hon'ble

Sri Rafi Ahmad Kidwai

CONSIDERABLE progress has been achieved in the field of civil aviation in India since the end of the last world war. The external air services in India are being operated by eight air transport companies under provisional licences issued by the Air Transport Licensing Board. During 1948-49 the number of passengers travelling by Indian air services increased from 60,000 in 1947 to 319,000 and the mileage flown by the scheduled services increased from 9 00,000 to 13,00,000. Most of the important cities and commercial centres in India are now served by scheduled services.

There are forty six civil aerodromes in operation in the country besides a number in the Indian States which are maintained by the State authorities The Director General of Civil Aviation controls forty six Communication Stations in the Indian Provinces and States

An air service was inaugurated during the year to the United Kingdom by Air India International which is a joint Government Company enterprise A sum of Rs 1,000,000 has been kept aside to subsidize this company if it becomes necessary Licences have also been granted to wholly Indian owned companies for the operation of air services to China, Australia and Iran Bilateral air transport agreements were concluded with Pakistan, Ceylon and Sweden Provisional arrangements already exist with the United Kingdom, Australia, China, Siam Iran Egypt Switzerland and Ethiopia whereby airlines of these countries are permitted to operate to and across India on a reciprocal basis

India continued to take keen interest in the affairs of the International Civil Aviation Organization on the Council of which she has a member from its inception The first South East Asia Regional Navigation Meeting convened by the Organization was held in New Delhi towards the end of 1948 and prepared a regional plan for aid to air navigation

The Civil Aviation Training Centre was started in

1946 During the last two years more than 380 trainees have completed their training at the School A Flying Training School which started at Allahabad in September 1948 has so far trained six pilot instructors A class of eight is at present under training Training aircraft (Chipmunks and Aero XIX) which were ordered from abroad have begun to arrive and the Flying Training School has started its activities from the middle of 1949 Rs 1 000 have been provided to subsidize flying and gliding clubs which also assist in the training of civil aviation personnel In addition to the seven flying clubs of Delhi Lucknow Patna Bhuvaneshwar Barrackpore Madras and Bombay which were in operation during 1947 48 under subsidy agreements of the Government of India provision was made during 1948 49 for subsidies to two new clubs and the Aero Club of India This Club suspended its activities during the war but was readmitted to the subsidy scheme from March 1948 The new clubs the East Punjab Flying Club of Jullundur and the Central Provinces and Berar Flying Club of Nagpur have been admitted to the subsidy scheme from November 1 1948 During 1948 the Clubs trained 1?? pilots for A and 19 for B licence On January 1 1949 the flying clubs had f t n s In order to enable the Indian Gliding Association of Bombay to revive its activities and organize gliding clubs in India a subsidy has been granted from December 1 1948 Steps are being taken to start model aeroplane clubs in colleges and universities and a provision of Rs 30 000 has been made in the current budget to make the younger generation air

amended. An Aeronautical Society has been formed, including among its members scientists, engineers and technical personnel of the Civil Aviation Department, and it is hoped that the Association will *promote* the cause of aeronautics in India.

As a member of the International Civil Aviation Organization, India has to develop her aerodromes to conform with the standards laid down by them. The programme for this year includes the construction of terminal buildings, residential quarters, wireless transmitting and receiving stations and hangars at the three international air ports and at more than twenty other aerodromes at a cost of Rs. 34,919,000.

This year was remarkable for a great increase in the meteorological requirements of air services, specially at the international air ports of Bombay, Calcutta and Delhi. Every effort was made to provide satisfactory weather service in accordance with the required *standards, to all the various international and internal* air services, as well as to shipping in Indian waters. India took a leading part in the activities of the international Meteorological Organization and the Regional Meteorological Conference for Asia was held in Delhi in November 1948. It adopted important recommendations regarding meteorological services for aviation and the exchange of weather information between Asian countries. Since India has one of the most efficient meteorological organizations in the world and definitely the best in Asia, it is in the interests of the country

to develop the service so as to bring it up to the standards laid down by the International Civil Aviation Convention and the World Meteorological Convention.

A great deal of attention was given to the development of weather service for farmers and also to the establishment of hydro meteorological networks in the catchment of major rivers, the improvement in the seismographical organization and to progress in astronomy. Advisory Boards were appointed for geophysics and astronomy consisting of many eminent scientists.

The broad development plans which are being undertaken are to improve the organization of the forecasting centres at Santa Cruz and Dum Dum, to coordinate crop weather schemes to study the effect of weather on crops sponsored by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, similar schemes for cotton and sugarcane production sponsored by the Central Cotton and Sugarcane Committees, to set up two Radar wind finding stations at Delhi and Poona to observe upper winds in cloudy weather when balloon measurements are not possible, the second stage of the hydrometeorological scheme to meet the requirements of the Central Waterpower Irrigation and Navigation Commission and the Central Board of Irrigation. A few seismographical observatories for which seismographs have already been obtained are to be set up this year. It is also proposed to establish a small workshop at Kodaikanal for the development of the Kodaikanal Observatory.

The Overseas Communication Service is responsible for the working of the telegraph, telephone and radio photograph services between India and foreign countries with the exception of India's immediate neighbours Burma, Ceylon and Pakistan. The services to these three countries are worked by the Post and Telegraphs Department. The service was taken over by the Government of India in January 1947 under the terms of the agreement, from the Indian Radio and Cable Communications Company for a sum of Rs 6 550 000.

India is at present directly connected by Radio Telegraph with the United Kingdom, the United States, China and Australia. Radio telegraph service with Japan, suspended during the war, is to be shortly re-opened. It has been decided to set up direct radio telegraph services to Iran, Afghanistan and certain neighbouring countries this year and with the United States of America in 1950.

The Government of India has entered into an agreement called the "Overall Agreement" which provides for the establishment of a Commonwealth Telecommunication Board. This Board is intended to promote and coordinate efficiency and development of the external telegraph services of the Commonwealth. The Government has undertaken to open a radio photograph service between Bombay and London, inaugurate multi-press broadcasts for the benefit of Indian diplomatic missions abroad, and establish radio telegraph services with the Indonesian Republic.

Under the new air mail system by which mails and freight are carried by air it is expected that a great deal of time will be saved in the delivery of letters and parcels. Mails are carried entirely by air or partly by air and partly by surface route whichever is quicker. Under this system a letter for Lucknow posted at Darjeeling at 8 a.m. is carried by mail motor up to Pa logra from there by the feeder air service to Calcutta. From Calcutta the letter is taken by night air mail service to Delhi and then by the feeder service to Lucknow where it reaches the next morning instead of on the fourth evening as before. The postal authorities contemplate utilizing the services of flying clubs at large centres to carry mails to places not connected by scheduled air services.

The Government of India decided to establish a telephone factory for the manufacture of automatic telephone and carrier equipment which is the first of its kind in India. Having had no previous experience of such a factory the Government entered into an agreement with the Automatic Telephone and Electric Company Ltd. for a period of fifteen years in the first instance during which period the company will allow to the Government full use of its existing and future patents and all other technical information in its possession. It will assist the Government in the early establishment of a fully equipped telephone factory in India both by acting as consulting engineers and by providing technical personnel until trained Indians

are available Already a group of ten Indian officers is under training in England

The factory is at present wholly owned by the Government But it is proposed to form a company to take over the concern Ninety per cent of the capital in this company will be owned by the Government and the remaining ten per cent by the Automatic Telephone and Electric Company, Ltd The factory has started work on assembling telephone instruments with parts received from England It is expected that within the next three years or so the factory will be fully equipped to undertake the manufacture of all types of telephonic equipment

THE CHANGING MAP

Although we have changed the map of India it is only the beginning. This is an opportunity. It is not the goal.

—The Hon'ble
Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

UNTIL recently the map of India was coloured pink and yellow; the pink represented British India and the yellow the Indian States. Since the attainment of independence a revolutionary change has come about and only one colour will soon be found on the whole map of India.

The threefold objective of this scheme of integration is: to unify the judicial, legislative, administrative, fiscal, revenue and other systems of merged and integrated States and to build up democratic institutions; to fashion the administrative and political

machinery of the States on the pattern of the Provinces, and to readjust the constitutional and fiscal relationships of the States with the Centre on the same level as the Provinces.

It is worthy of note that 213 States covering an area of 101,769 square miles with a population of 17.1 millions have been merged with Provinces.* Twenty three States covering an area of 19,514 square miles with a population of 1.5 million have been taken over as the centrally administered areas of Himachal Pradesh, Bilaspur, and Cutch. Three hundred and two States covering an area of 227,211 square miles with a population of 30.1 millions have been integrated into five Unions of States, namely Greater Rajasthan,† Madhya Bharat, Saurashtra, Patiala and East Punjab, and Vindhya Pradesh.

Steps have been taken to help in the making of a model constitution for the Unions of States. A Committee consisting of Mr. B. N. Rau, Constitutional Adviser, and seven members of the Constituent Assembly of India has been appointed to draft this model constitution which is expected to follow the provincial pattern. This will make it possible for Unions of

*Tehri Garhwal was merged with the United Provinces on August 1, 1949 as the fiftieth district of the Province, adding 4,00,000 to its population, 4,515 square miles to its area and about Rs. 4,000,000 to its revenue.

So also was Mayurbhanj merged with Orissa.

†With which the Matsya Union has now been integrated.

States and viable States to be treated on the same basis as the Provinces in respect of constitutional relationship with the Indian Union

Under the new constitution of India the position of the Provinces and States will be largely that of equal partners having the same status, rights and responsibilities. It follows then that the States or the Unions of States will be expected to contribute to the finances of the Indian Union on the same basis as the Provinces. While it has been possible in the States merged with the Provinces to abolish the feudal taxes, cesses and internal customs barriers and to impose central legislation in respect of income tax, excise, salt and customs duties, there have been difficulties in regard to Unions of States and individual States. A proper system of federal finance would not only help India as a whole to make progress as an economic unit but also entitle the States and Unions of States to assume the same status as the Provinces deriving the same benefits from the Central Government such as grants and subsidies which the Provinces receive. A three man committee has been appointed with Mr. V. T. Krishnamachari as Chairman to recommend means whereby the States can be financially integrated with the Centre.

From the point of view of good government, popular welfare and national economy the administrative integration of the States for the first time provides an effective approach to the problem. The Government of India has been fully alive to the need for positive

coordinated and sustained action so as to establish conditions in which the people can secure adequate administrative and social services and full opportunities for progress and development.

The administrative integration of States which merged with Provinces has been comparatively easy but the problem in respect of Unions of States has been complicated by the absence of past traditions and conventions of cohesion and uniformity. To assist the Governments of various Unions of States in their work the Central Government has made available to them for key posts officers of the all India service. A senior officer visited the various Unions of States to advise them on the building of efficient administration. The States Ministry is considering whether Unions of States should participate in the all India schemes of recruitment to the administrative and police services.

In Hyderabad law and order has been restored and the interim administration has effected many important reforms, the most notable of which concerns the *Sarf e Khas* or the crown lands of the Nizam which cover an area of 8,000 square miles and are estimated to yield an annual income of between Rs 20 to Rs 30 million. The Nizam has recently agreed to transfer the control of these crown lands to the civil administration. All restrictions on the movement of goods have been removed and business between India and Hyderabad has been resumed.

has been set up. A High Court and a Public Service Commission have been established and district treasuries have been created, and the services are being reorganized. Much the same progress has been made in all the other Unions of States excepting Vindhya Pradesh.

It is worthy of note that the fixing of the privy purses of Rulers has resulted in an annual saving of Rs. 20 million. This figure does not include the saving expected in respect of Vindhya Pradesh, the Patiala and East Punjab States Union, Baroda and Kolhapur. Dissipation of national wealth has thus been checked by fixing the Rulers' privy purses and by avoiding the wastage involved in maintaining sub-standard governmental institutions in hundreds of States. The settlement regarding the private property of Rulers has given Madhya Bharat Rs. 250 million, Saurashtra Rs. 140 million, Rajasthan about Rs. 90 million, Patiala and East Punjab States Rs. 50 million and Vindhya Pradesh Rs. 30 million.

The States Ministry is seriously considering the question of the reorganization of the armed forces of the States or their absorption in the Indian Army. There is general agreement that the States Forces should be so organized and maintained that together with the Armed Forces of the Indian Union they fit into a unified pattern for the defence of India. Already the armed forces of eleven States have merged with the Indian Army.

A HEALTHY NATION

I e nt or is at all times letter than ure and I lelieve that 0 per cent of our l ea s could be eliminated if we had proper housing and therefore no over or l ng proper drainage and sewage and therefore no in anitation proper health lucation which would teach the p ople the art of living cleanly and eating chat is good for them and above all rough food and mill and a pure water upply everywhere
—The Hon lle
Rajkumari Amrit Kaur

MOST impr tant matters onnected with health are in tl hand f provincial government The Min try f H alth at the Centre i respon ible for international health relation port quarantine control of standard f imported drug and administration of certain central training and re earch institution Is also h en urrent re p nsibilities in regard to medic l dental pharm ceutic l nur ing and other llied profe ion and the prevention of the spread of di ease from one Province t another For the centrally administered area f wev r tle Centre i directly respon ll for pr ncial subjects as well

Medi l ffi gi rs d m l f
l spect ro ec l t l g t h
M l l I stit t f l di D lhi

To begin with the hospital scheme has been mentioned in order to reorganize the various department of the local hospital and to provide more adequate medical staff. The Safdarjung and Willingdon Hospital are to be developed as institutions for the treatment of non-paying patients while the Willingdon Nursing Home and the Hindu Rao Hospital are to be developed as nursing home for those who can afford to pay. At these institutions honorary surgeons and physicians will be in charge while the administration will be in the hands of full time Government medical officers who will be disallowed private practice.

At present the Irwin Hospital has 30[illegible] beds. In view of the rapid increase in the population of Delhi this number is quite inadequate. Plans are under consideration to increase the number of beds to 630.

One reason for the paucity of nurses at the Irwin Hospital has been the lack of accommodation on the hospital premises. The nurses quarters can accommodate only 4[illegible] nurses and the rest have to be accommodated in certain family wards. It is proposed to build an entirely new three-storeyed nurses home to provide accommodation for 10[illegible] nurses. The existing nurses quarters will be used to house the registrar house surgeons and physicians who under the reorganization scheme will reside on the premises.

Two Primary Health Centres are to be constructed in the villages Najafgarh and Narela as models for

similar centres elsewhere in India. Each centre will have both a man and a woman Medical Officer of Health, health nurses, midwives and other medical personnel. At each centre there will be a dispensary and a hospital with six beds. In order to supplement rural medical aid given by the Primary Health Centres two mobile dispensaries are to be started with two lorries. The Government of India has taken these important steps to solve the urgent problem of rural health.

There are at present no proper arrangements for the treatment of tuberculosis at the Victoria Hospital in Ajmer, which is a centrally administered area. It is proposed to establish a tuberculosis clinic at this hospital, which will work in close cooperation with the Madar Union Sanitorium run by a Mission. It will have 40 beds for poor patients sent by the clinic or by other Health Centres in Ajmer Merwara. For this purpose the Government has sanctioned a subsidy of Rs 50,000 a year. In addition to the 40 beds there will be 10 beds reserved for paying patients.

A Secondary Health Centre is to be established at Beawar. A hospital at this Centre will initially have 50 beds which in the course of five years will be increased to 100.

The recommendation of the Health Survey and Development Committee to establish an All India Medical Institute to provide advanced post-graduate

training and to promote research in all branches of the scheme was referred to an Advisory Committee This Advisory Committee has recommended the setting up of four research institutes the first to be located in Delhi The total cost is estimated at Rs 0 000 000

In collaboration with provincial governments the Central Ministry of Health initiated a scheme for higher training in medical and allied subjects in foreign countries Last year the States expressed their desire to participate in this scheme During these twelve months in addition to the regular scholarships the Health Ministry has started a Travel Fellowship Programme whereby medical teachers and research workers from Central and provincial institutions are sent abroad for six to nine months to study the progress achieved in different countries in the various branches of medicine

Tuberculosis is one of the most fatal diseases in India A diploma course in tubercular diseases has been started at the Delhi University in order to have specially trained personnel to combat this disease It is also proposed to give a grant to the Delhi University for the establishment of a Tuberculosis Institute

It has been decided to purchase a Mass Chest Radiographic Unit at an estimated cost of Rs 120 000 for the All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health This is intended for purposes of experimental survey amongst industrial workers through mass radiography to estimate the incidence of tuberculosis

Besides, efforts are being made to popularize B.C.G. vaccination as a preventive against T.B. At the request of the Government of India the World Health Organization sent out a Demonstration Team. Under its guidance two B.C.G. centres have already been organized, one at Madanapalli and the other at Delhi. In order to intensify the B.C.G. vaccination programme an agreement has been signed with the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund and the Danish Red Cross (which are together called the Joint Enterprise) regarding aid for mass vaccination. Accordingly the Joint Enterprise is sending six B.C.G. teams to organize B.C.G. vaccination centres and train Indian teams to continue the vaccination programme. The manufacture of B.C.G. vaccine has already been started at the B.C.G. Laboratory which is situated for the time being in a building attached to the King Institute, Guindy. The Director and the Assistant Bacteriologist of the B.C.G. Laboratory have received special training in the manufacture of the vaccine at Copenhagen.

The Rabies Advisory Committee under the Research Fund Association and the Association of the Pasteur Institute of India have emphasized the urgent need to open a Rabies Research Centre at Kasauli and offered a sum of Rs. 150,000 to meet the cost of the building required for the centre. The necessary staff has been sanctioned and the work of acquiring the premises has been taken up.

In the last few years there have been rapid develop-

ments in malariology and to cover the entire field of these modern developments it has been decided that the course of training for medical officers at the Delhi Malaria Institute be extended from six to twelve weeks and the number of lectures to [illegible] and practical work to [illegible] hours.

One of the interesting experiments during the year has been the setting up of a new department of housing under the Ministry of Health to organize research on housing construction, gather statistical and other data regarding housing and to give advice to Central and provincial governments, local bodies and those interested in housing schemes. This department will also establish and run a factory for the manufacture of prefabricated houses.

The blueprints are ready for the establishment of such a factory in Delhi and the regular production at the rate of a hundred houses per week will begin in a few months. Each of these houses will cover an area of [illegible]0 square feet and cost Rs. [illegible]00 exclusive of land and fittings. At present the entire outturn of the [illegible] prefabricated houses will be made available to refugees, the poorer sections of the general public and to meet the urgent need of the Government and local bodies.

The Central Health Publicity Bureau which is to be started in the near future is intended to promote the hitherto neglected work of health education among all sections of the population. It will also give suitable [illegible]

advice and assistance to the provincial health departments for the organization of health propaganda It will publish an Indian Health Journal, produce, collect and circulate suitable material and literature, local and foreign, motion pictures, films, models, museums, radio talks and the like

India is a member of the World Health Organization and her membership fee, assessed at 3 25 per cent of the total expenses of that organization, is estimated at Rs 650,000 A regional Bureau of the World Health Organization for South East Asia has been started at Delhi with an Indian as Director During this year the World Health Organization will provide assistance to India on advisory administrative services films medical literature and especially teaching equipment in respect of malaria, tuberculosis venereal diseases, maternity and child health The W H O will meet the cost of the salaries and travel of the teams and consultants to be sent out and will also provide equipment for team demonstrations The Government of India will only have to meet incidental local expenses

The United Nations International Children s Emergency Fund has sanctioned a proposal sent by the Government of India for financial assistance to the extent of $ 750 000 Of this $ 500 000 will be earmarked for refugee children and for children in maternity and child welfare centres in the various Provinces and States A representative of the Fund has already arrived in Delhi to work out the details and implement the scheme in India

LIGHTING THE TORCH

Freedom has raised great expectations among the people but unfortunately the unprecedented problems which came in the wake of the partition of the country and later on the financial difficulties which we faced in recent months held up progress in all spheres of national activity including education. The Government of India is anxious to devise ways and means by which in spite of the financial stringency a start should be made to implement our educational scheme.

—The Hon'ble
Maulana Abul Kalam Azad

THE Kher Committee has suggested that universal compulsory education should be introduced in two five-year and one six-year plan. It will mean that in sixteen years all Indian children of school-going age will be in school. Seventy per cent of the expenditure on this basic education will be borne by the Provinces and local governments and thirty per cent by the Centre. The Saxena Committee of Social Education has recommended that the Provinces be requested to prepare schemes for social education so that in the course of five years at least fifty per cent of the adult population of the Province can be made literate.

Even though for lack of financial resources the scheme cannot be implemented in its entirety at once yet the Ministry of Education at the Centre is determined that a beginning should be made within a year A sum of Rs 5,000,000 has been provided for grants to Provinces to train teachers for basic education and a sum of Rs 10,000 000 to assist Provinces to provide facilities for social education in their drive to liquidate illiteracy

To surmount the difficulty of securing an adequate number of trained teachers it was decided to take trained refugee teachers from West Punjab and give them a short refresher course at Jamia Millia in Delhi Two groups of fifty teachers have already completed the course and a third group is now in training Two Training Institutes have been started—one at Delhi for women and the other at Ajmer for men

One hundred schools have been started in Delhi in two instalments and another fifty schools are soon to be opened Provision has already been made to start social education in the Delhi Province and the response from the villagers has surprised those who have seen the scheme at work It was decided to hold education *melas* or fairs from time to time to arouse the interest and enthusiasm of the villagers Two such *melas* have been held in which villagers have produced their own dramatic performances as well as exhibited products of local industries and crafts The cooperation of the Ministries of Health Labour Information and Broad

a ting and Agriculture has been secured in organizing these education *mela*

The Department of Education Delhi Province organized a camp for training social education teacher at Najafgarh in May 1949 The camp lasted for three weeks and about one hundred volunteers were trained in the theory and practice of social education and its scope

Scholarships for scheduled castes and backward people have been in existence for the last five years The Education Ministry has felt that this scheme should not only be continued but enlarged on an all India scale A provision has been made of Rs 1 000 000 (900 000 for scheduled castes and 100 000 for backward people)

In future scholars will be sent abroad on scholarships only for such training as is not available in India and only those will be sent who are already in service or are selected in specific undertaking A grant of 1 300 000 has been provided for Overseas Scholarships which include about Rs 1 000 000 for the maintenance of students already selected in previous year and about Rs 300 000 for new recruits

A total sum of Rs 11 000 000 is provided for the improvement and extension of facilities for education in technological subjects in consonance with the recommendations of the All India Council for Technolo

gical Education and of the Scientific Manpower Committee In 1946, a scheme for the development of fundamental research in universities and scientific institutes was accepted as part of the first five year plan of development In 1948-49 a provision of Rs 1,000,000 was made for the purpose and a grant of Rs 60,000 was given to the Calcutta University for its department of Nuclear Physics

The Ministry has undertaken the preparation of a History of Philosophy in which the contribution of India to the development of human thought will be adequately interpreted Dr Radhakrishnan is the chairman of the Board of Editors and about sixty contributors from different countries have been invited to cooperate in the task It is expected that the work will be published during this year

The British Royal Academy with the help of the Government of India organized an exhibition of Indian Art in London in the winter of 1947 This exhibition had the finest collection of Indian Art objects ever made and was lauded by competent critics of all countries It closed in February 1948 but the Ministry of Education felt that it would be unfortunate if the people of India did not have a chance to see this unique collection Accordingly it organized the Indian Art Exhibition in the Government House which created great enthusiasm and was visited for several months by thousands of spectators from all over the country

The National Archives is the repository of the recorded files and papers of the Government of India. Fresh accessions during this year amounted to 86 boxes, 603 bundles and 4 7 volumes of records totalling approximately 3,300 cubic feet and involving 14 agencies. Five students who were selected for training in 1947 completed their course successfully and 13 fresh candidates were admitted, all of whom were deputed by provincial or State governments. Besides these, research students worked in the records department, of whom seven were from the States. Three issues of the new quarterly journal *Indian Archives* were published in 1948 and four issues have been delayed partly owing to inadequate staff but mainly for want of printing facilities. During the last year correspondence on archival matters was conducted with the United Kingdom, the United States, France, French India, Belgium, *Holland, Denmark, Norway, Spain and Portugal*. Lists of records and manuscripts of Indian interest have been received from Norway, several United Kingdom agencies, Portugal and the United States. Microcopies of Indian manuscripts have been acquired from Exeter Public Library and the Commonwealth Relations Office in Great Britain.

The Archaeological Department has undertaken important excavations at Brahmagiri and Chandravalli in Mysore State and Sisupalgarh. It is helping the Allahabad University in the excavation of the well known site of ancient Kausambi. It is proposed to revive publication of the *Archaeological Memoirs* sus

pended during the war. Material for two volumes is already in hand. It is also proposed to publish picture postcards, albums of monuments and museums in addition to the regular journals, such as *Ancient India, Epigraphia Indica, Epigraphia Indo Moslemica*.

The existence of a large number of primitive people in India has made it necessary to have a proper survey of their reaction to the impact of modern conditions and of freedom. It was therefore decided to create a separate department for Anthropology. In December, 1948 three scientific parties were sent to different parts of the country for anthropological research. The first party went to the Abor laboratory in Assam, the second to the Santhal Parganas and the third to the hills of southern Travancore. It was decided to start a class under the auspices of the department to train students in Anthropology, especially in anthropological research. Four students have already completed their training and have been absorbed in the department.

It was proposed to establish in New Delhi a National Museum of Indian Archaeology, History, Anthropology and Art. The Director and two keepers will be sent on a planned tour abroad to study the administration and methods of display of some of the best museums in the United Kingdom and the United States. The recurring expenditure involved rises from Rs 101,000 in the first year to Rs 522,961 in the sixth. It is proposed to establish a National Cultural Trust to

levelop hterature sculpture p untin, music drama ties and dancing On a rough estimate it is considered that a sum not le s than Rs 40 million will be require l for the purpo e

To promote cultural r lations between Indir and her neighbouring countrie and help Indian student living in foreign countrie without adequate educa tional facilitie the Government of India proposes to award every year thirty scholarships to persons of Indian origin domicile l abroad and forty scholarship to nationals of her neighbouring countrie During the current year seven *ad hoc* cholarships tenable for three to four years have been sanctioned for students from the Republic of Indonesia The French Govern ment have for the la t three years awarded certain cholarship t Indian students to study in France *Since reciprocity fo ters good relations the Govern* m nt of India has prepare l a scheme to award nine fellowship for two year each to suitable French graduates f r research at Indian Universities

The present Indian Iranian Cultural Committee i to be expanded and reorganized as the India Middl East Cultural Association so that its scope may be xtended and it may be able to help in strengthening the cultural bonds between India and the Middle East

EDUCATING THE MASTERS

For the proper and efficient functioning of a progressive democracy, wide and planned publicity which would educate the people and make them conscious of their responsibilities as citizens is absolutely necessary. Every popular government must keep in touch with its masters, the people.

—The Hon'ble
Sri R. R. Diwakar

It is the function of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to educate the masters. It does this through the Films Division, All India Radio, the Publications Division and the Press Information Bureau.

The Films Division was revived in response to the need for the production of documentaries as a means of educating large masses of people in matters of cultural, social and political interest and of newsreels for the enlightenment of the public on current topics. It is proposed to produce 36 documentaries a year and in addition obtain 16 from the trade. These films are

teing produced in two sizes 35 MM for circulation to commercial cinema houses and 16 MM for exhibition through non commercial circuits like mobile vans for rural areas and for Indian Embassies and Legations abroad In order to economize in the consumption of raw material steps are being taken to restrict the length of feature films to 11 0 0 feet and of trailers to 400 feet The exhibition of not less than a thousand feet of documentaries and newsreels at each cinema show has been ensured by a condition inserted in the licences by provincial government The States have also been requested to make a similar provision in the cinema licences and most of the States are in agreement with the pr p al

I [illegible] th [illegible] documentaries newsreels were pro- [illegible] this year Today films are produced only in [illegible] Hindu tamil but the plan is to dub them in [illegible] Tamil and Telugu as well and later in other languages A provision of Rs 3 410 000 has been made in the budget for the current year for the development of the Films Division Ten documentaries have already been produced Among them those of special interest are *India and the Persian Gulf Operation Kashm Jaipur Congress* and *Vigil in the Snows*

A proposal is under consideration for the production of documentary films for use in schools and colleges The Ministry of Education is endeavouring to find funds for the educational film units which will be required for this project It has also been decided tha

the Films Division should produce films for the Defence Services

In consultation with the provincial governments it was decided that films censored in India should be classified into two categories those suitable for universal exhibition and those suitable for exhibition to adults only This decision was influenced by the fact that certain types of films do not have a wholesome effect on children and adolescents and it is desirable to ban by legislation the exhibition of such films to children without debarring adults from seeing them

It was represented to the Government that the code of censorship followed by the different provincial boards was not uniform and there had been instances of films certified in one Province and banned in another To achieve uniformity in censorship it is proposed to set up a Central Board of Film Censors in place of the existing provincial ones

The last enquiry into the film industry was conducted in 1927-28 Another enquiry is more than overdue, especially in view of the growth of the film industry since that time In order to study how the organization of the industry can be improved, and along what lines its future development should be directed it is proposed to appoint an Inquiry Committee consisting of representatives of the Government and the industry under specified terms of reference

During 1948-49 radio stations were opened at Shillong, Cuttack, Nagpur, Vijayawada and Allahabad while the station at Baroda has been taken over by AIR. With the addition of nine stations made in the previous year, All India Radio controls fourteen stations today. In addition a pilot station has gone on the air at Ahmedabad and two more, one at Dharwar and the other at Calicut, are expected to start functioning shortly. With their installation All India Radio network will cover all important linguistic areas. Preliminary work is in progress to install high power transmitters at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras.

A prominent phase of the activity of All India Radio has been the numerous and varied broadcasts arranged outside the studio. Such items range from the recorded broadcasts of Mahatma Gandhi's daily addresses at his prayer meetings to the more complicated arrangement on the occasion of the launching of the ship *Jala Prabha* at Vizagapatam and the inauguration of an Indian shipping service from Tuticorin to Colombo.

Almost all stations of All India Radio broadcast special programmes intended for listeners in rural areas. Each Radio station maintains close contact with the nation building departments of the local government and obtains from them for inclusion in its programmes material of benefit and interest to the rural listener. It is estimated that in Madras, Bombay, Delhi and the United Provinces listening facilities have been brought within the reach of nearly 10,000,000 people.

The Calcutta and Bombay stations broadcast special programmes for workers in factories and other establishments. The Calcutta programme is broadcast daily in Bengali and Hindustani and is addressed to the worker. The timings are fixed in consultation with the Labour Department of the Government of Bengal. About 28 factories in Calcutta and adjacent areas have installed radio sets and made arrangements for workers to listen in. The Bombay programme is broadcast three times a week in Marathi, Gujerati and Hindustani and has a more general appeal for audiences which include shopkeepers, brokers and clerks. Canteens, tea rooms and restaurants provide listening facilities.

The number of schools and colleges with radio sets is roughly as follows: 200 in the Madras Province, about 100 in the Bombay Province, 50 in the Delhi Province, about 50 in East Punjab and about 20 in West Bengal. In order to ensure close liaison, Educational Consultative Panels have been set up to help prepare special programmes for schools.

The programmes for the Armed Forces were given a new orientation after August 15, 1947. Since there are no longer any troops in foreign countries, the programme is now broadcast only once a day in the evening. From the beginning of this year a special programme in Gorkhali has been added for the benefit of Gurkha soldiers.

As stations have started operating in areas previ

ously not served there has been an increase in the number of languages in which the news bulletins are broadcast. Bulletins in Malayalam, Kannada, Assamese, Punjabi and Gorkhali were added during this year bringing the total number of bulletins per day from 52 to 65 and the number of languages from 8 to 13. The number and duration of news bulletins has been further increased to provide for a more satisfactory coverage. The External Services Division broadcasts 26 news bulletins per day in 13 languages. The main areas served are South East Asia, East and South Africa and the Middle East. These broadcasts are intended to serve not only Indian nationals living abroad but also countries with which we have close cultural or economic contacts. Judging from listeners reaction from different parts of the world, it may be said that the response to the External Service has been very satisfactory.

During this year All India Radio published fortnightly journals in Tamil, English, Bengali, Hindi, Urdu and Gujerati. These journals carry details of forthcoming programmes, extracts from talks, notes about special items and a summary of news.

Broadcasting being highly specialized, one of the major problems is to ensure a continuous supply of trained personnel for its various branches of activity. All India Radio therefore opened a Staff Training School in 1948 for the training of new entrants into the service (both programme and technical) as well as of the existing members of the staff.

Broadcasting will defeat its purpose unless it can keep in constant touch with the needs and interests of its listeners The Listener Research Unit of All India Radio continuously collects this information In order to study the trends in listening and the shifts in public taste contact with listeners is maintained by a system of listening panels, postal enquiries and sample surveys

After partition the number of licences covering domestic radio sets dropped from 236 206 to 205,26› but during the next 14 months following independence its number rose to 286,045 This represents an increase of about 40 per cent In 1948 on an average 9,000 new licences were issued per month In addition to domestic receiving sets there were during 1948 about 22 000 sets installed in commercial establishments and about 1 800 in rural centres at community posts

Broadcasting on high frequencies had gained considerable momentum during the war and stations broadcasting on short waves sprang up in quick succession all over the world Therefore the space set apart in the wireless frequency spectrum for broadcasting was heavily congested In recognition of the contribution that India had made to the study of high frequency problems she was elected a member of the Five Nation Committee set up by the International Telecommunications Union to remedy the congestion and look after world interests Today India ranks fourth among the users of broadcasting frequencies in the world the

ctler being the United States the United Kingdom and Soviet Russia

On completion of the 8-year plan of AIR the broadcast coverage on medium waves will be increased from 0 030 square miles to 00 000 square miles i e a tenfold increase in the area and population served The most important feature of the scheme however is that whereas the previous service covered only 10 000 villages the 8-year plan will bring broadcasting within the reach of over 80 000 villages Six 0 kw medium wave transmitters and two 10 kw medium wave transmitters have already arrived in India and it is expected that they will be brought into operation within the next year or so

The Press Information Bureau works for all the Ministries of the Government of India and attached and subordinate offices totalling over 0 It collects coordinates and provides to the press verbal textual and pictorial information on the activities of the Government and keeps the Government informed of the main trends of public opinion as reflected in the press

During 1948-49 the Bureau issued 00 press releases including 163 releases from regional offices Its publications such as reports of the Ministries and periodicals appointed by the Government were issued along with summaries Twenty six Press Conferences were arranged during this period

The Bureau arranged publicity for a number of international gatherings in India. For the ECAFE Conference a camp office was opened at Ootacamund and a Public Relations Officer was attached to the Indian delegation to the Conference. Officers of the Bureau were deputed to cover the International Meteorological and Air Navigation Conferences and the Conference on Indonesia in New Delhi as well as the Third General Conference of UNESCO at Beirut.

The Bureau has stepped up output to six thousand photographic prints a month which were distributed to 90 Indian and 41 foreign recipients which shows the growing importance of pictorial journalism.

Over 110 newspapers are directly in receipt of Information Services in some form or other in Indian or non-Indian languages. Altogether there are 2,500 recipients arranged in about 90 classified mailing lists. The stencilled matter sent out covers about 25,000 foolscap sheets a day.

The Publications Division is responsible for the production and distribution of pamphlets on subjects of national importance for external and internal publicity and of journals in English, Hindi, Urdu and Arabic. External publicity is intended to project India to the outside world, bring about a better appreciation of her achievements and a clearer understanding of her problems, establish closer cultural relations particularly with neighbouring countries and remove

false impressions about India. Internal publicity is meant to explain to the people of India the nation-building activities conducted by the Government and the significance of international events against the background of India.

While the publications are principally designed to meet publicity requirements inside the country and abroad, every effort is made to ensure that the publications pay their way as far as possible. Consequently all of them are priced with the exception of a few which are meant for free distribution. The Division has produced 31 pamphlets during the year of which *Homage* (Gandhi Souvenir) has gone into two editions and *India* (produced on the occasion of the ECAFE Conference) into three editions. Among other pamphlets *The Kashmir Story*, *Indian States Today*, *India's Minorities* and *After Partition* have been very well received.

SHEEP DOGS OF THE FARM

"It will be more correct to say that we are the sheep dogs of the farm. We try to shepherd the flock as quietly and unobtrusively as possible, and though we do growl or even bark at times, we never bite. If I may switch on to another metaphor, our job is very much akin to that of a resourceful tailor who is obliged to do a lot of cutting and piecing together to serve an impecunious customer whose sartorial ambitions far outstrip his material. It is of course irksome to be told by your tailor that he cannot make you an achkan with a waistcoat material. It is even more irritating to have to agree that actually a waistcoat would do just as well. It is the same with government expenditure."

—Sir K. K. K. Menon

Secretary, Ministry of Finance

APART from the vigilance over the Government expenditure, the fight against inflation has been one of the Ministry's main preoccupations during the year. As the Hon'ble Minister of Finance said in his Budget speech, "The answer to the problem of inflation and high prices is to increase the supply of commodities to meet the existing demand and, until this position is reached, to control the distribution of the available

supply of essential commodities. The Government's anti-inflation policy was determined by certain broad considerations: to take all possible steps to keep the Government expenditure as low as possible consistent with efficiency and to increase revenue by all available means; to make a concerted effort immediately to ensure that there were no further rises in prices and the cost of living; so to order the future policy as to secure in the shortest possible time a progressive reduction in prices to reasonable levels and the supply of an increasing volume of goods and services; and to make every endeavour to curtail the purchasing power in the hands of the community and prevent any additions to it.

One of the important anti-inflation measures was heavier taxation on luxury goods. This measure is expected to increase the financial resources available for industrial development and at the same time to absorb surplus purchasing power.

The system of levying income tax on interest-bearing deposits introduced in 1943 was revived and it was decided to postpone for three years the refund of deposits of Excess Profits Tax except for approved purposes. By an Ordinance a temporary limit was placed on the amount that could be distributed as dividend by public companies.

To fight inflation it is of the utmost importance for the economy of the country that the community

should save as much as possible and lend its savings to the State With this aim in view the Government of India decided to provide facilities for middle and lower middle class investors who may wish to invest in National Savings Certificates without having to lock up their money for a long period Two new series of National Savings Certificates, one with a currency of five years and the other with a currency of seven years, were accordingly issued These were in addition to the existing twelve year Certificates which will continue to be issued and will cater to those investors who prefer a relatively long term investment at the favourable rate of interest which these Certificates offer The new issues, subject to the same rules as the old twelve year National Savings Certificates, will be encashable at any time holder desires

The Industrial Finance Corporation was constituted with effect from July 1, 1948 for the purpose of providing medium and long term loans to industrial concerns in India The authorized capital is Rs 100 million of which half has been issued so far the subscription of the Central Government and the Reserve Bank amounting to Rs 10 million each Insurance Companies Investment Trusts Banks and other financial institutions have subscribed the balance The Corporation is managed by a Board of twelve Directors of whom the Managing Director and three other Directors are nominated by the Government two by the Central Board of the Reserve Bank while the remaining six represent the other shareholders Only limited

companies and cooperative societies are eligible for loans from the Corporation and the total amount sanctioned so far is Rs 18.4 million The industries assisted are metal manufacturing electrical engineers ceramics iron steel foundries electric works electrical supply undertakings and chemical works

The plan for the allocation of defence expenditure between the Government of India and the United Kingdom ceased with effect from April 1 1947 but a large number of points remained outstanding when the accounts were closed The Finance Ministry discussed these items with the United Kingdom Government as part of the sterling balance negotiations and it was agreed that a sum of £ million would be paid by the U K Government in final settlement of the outstanding claims 1 ½ per cent of which would be paid to Pakistan and the balance to India

A settlement was also reached with the U K Government regarding the payment for defence stores and installations left behind which were taken over by the Government of India The total amount to be paid was settled at £100 million of which £ 1 million were paid last August and the balance this April The Pakistan Government was associated in the negotiation with the U K Government and agreed to pay India in sterling for a part of the installations and stores located in Pakistan or subsequently transferred to them A claim for the payment of Rs 170 million has been sent to the Pakistan Government but so far

only a sum of Rs. 23.5 million, representing the value of defence installations located in Pakistan on the date of partition, has been paid.

Following the passing of the Act in September, 1948, for the nationalization of the Reserve Bank the shares of the Reserve Bank were acquired by the Government of India on January 1, 1949.

The banking situation in the country has been under constant review by the Reserve Bank and the Finance Ministry. Under the Banking Companies Inspection Ordinance inspections were held, as a consequence of which four banks were banned from receiving fresh deposits and two banks were removed from the schedule to the Reserve Bank Act.

A minor banking crisis developed in West Bengal towards the end of September, 1948. The Reserve Bank advanced more than Rs. 35 million to the banks needing assistance. But even so four banks had to close down. An Ordinance was approved in September 1948, to enable the Reserve Bank to render timely assistance to these banks and to empower it to ensure that the interests of the depositors were safe.

The position in respect of arrears of income tax was reviewed. It was found that [illegible]85,000 assessment cases were outstanding and payments amounting to Rs. [illegible] million remained to be collected on completed cases. A special drive for the clearance of arrears of assess

ment and for expediting collection of taxes already assessed was launched with the result that at the end of December 1948 only 19,38 cases were pending and of the total arrears Rs 1 0 million had been collected In order to expedite the clearance of arrears and also as a measure against inflation an Ordinance was issued in December 1948 empowering the Income Tax Department to make a provisional assessment of tax on the basis of the admitted income shown by the assessees on their return It is proposed to make this system of provisional assessment a part of the permanent law and a Bill incorporating the necessary provisions is under preparation

The main administrative problems which confronted the Customs Department during the year were those which arose from the emergence of Pakistan as foreign territory at the expiry of the Standstill Agreement between the two countries in February 1948 and from the integration of a large number of Indian States with the Provinces or their conversion into centrally administered areas The former required the setting up of a number of land customs stations on the frontiers and the prescribing of routes by which alone goods should pass by land between India and Pakistan During the year the Customs Administrations of Saurashtra and Junagadh Cutch Janjira Cambay and other states which merged with Bombay were taken over

The Opium Department of the Finance Ministry

controls the production and supply of opium products in the country. The internal consumption of opium is controlled by the provincial and States governments to whom supplies are made on demand by the Central Government. The policy of the Government of India is to limit the production and consumption of opium to the minimum possible and ultimately to reduce the production to the quantity required for medical and scientific purposes.

With the attainment of independence the question of revising the designs of Indian currency and bank notes and coins has been taken up. New designs have been approved and it is hoped that notes and coins in the new designs will be issued in the course of the next financial year. These notes will be printed at the Currency Note Press at Nasik Road. The Currency Note Press and the India Security Press print on behalf of the Government of India and the Reserve Bank of India notes, postal and other stamps, postal stationery and miscellaneous items such as excise banderols and petrol coupons. Orders have been placed for new and uptodate machinery to enable the presses to meet new demands and to ensure a sustained output.

There are at present two mints, one at Bombay and the other at Calcutta, the latter being over a hundred years old. A new mint on modern lines is being constructed at Alipore at an approximate cost of Rs. 20 million. A silver refinery is also proposed to be cons-

tructed at Alipore for the extraction of silver from the quaternary coins which are being replaced by nickel one

India is a founder member of both the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for reconstruction and development and has a permanent seat on the directorates of both. India's quota in the Fund is $ 400 million and that is her share capital in the Bank whereas France has a quota of $ [illegible]5, China of $ [illegible]0, the United Kingdom of $ 1 300 and the U S A of $ [illegible]0 million

The functions of these two institutions are entirely different. The International Monetary Fund is an [illegible]nization which lends currencies to its members fo[r] [illegible]t terms to meet temporary disequilibria in their balances of payment. While on the other hand the International Bank lends money on a long term basis [w]ith[i]n f[o]r particular projects needing to be financed or generally for the reconstruction and development of a member country's economy. India has so far [b]orrowed $ [illegible]0 million for current purposes

The Government of India felt that many of their developmental projects had reached a stage at which work might be started on them if arrangements could be made for the necessary foreign exchange. They therefore invited the International Bank to send out a Mission to acquaint themselves at first hand with the Indian situation and its requirements and to discu

with the Government the projects which might qualify India for a loan from the Bank. Accordingly in January, 1949 a Mission arrived in New Delhi. The plans for which loans are needed include projects to bring under cultivation waste and weed infested land, to sink tube wells, to develop fisheries and to purchase locomotives, ships and hydro electric equipment. The reaction of the mission has been favourable and it is hoped that India will ultimately obtain the financial resources needed for these great projects.

CREATING NEW TRADITIONS

They ha e a tradition to kee — a tradi tion of valour spirit and resolute will in action In my judgment they have surpass ed this tradition They have literally broken all records

—The H n ble

arda Balde S gh

SINCE Au u t 1 194 the Defence Ministry and the Armed Forces HQ have had to tackle problems of immen e magnitude and far reaching consequence Partition inevitably led to the division of the Armed Force which practically involved their reorganization The task f eeing tho across the border who had opted for Paki tan and al orbing tho e who had ex pre ed a de ire to come over to India was in itself a major military and administrative undertaking

Mixed unit and formation in the Army had to be broken up and rebuilt The Delhi Area wa created

after August 15 1947 and the dissolution of the Punjab Boundary Force brought into being the East Punjab Area. As the protection of the Indo-Pakistan frontier was of paramount importance these two areas were amalgamated to form the D E P Command which was later renamed Western Command, with its headquarters in Delhi.

Even while this reconstitution was in progress, communal disturbances broke out in West and East Punjab. Besides helping curb disorders the Army had largely to shepherd the mass movement of uprooted refugees. This task was accomplished principally through the Military Evacuation Organization, which had to deal with the migration of not only non-Muslims to India but also of Muslims to Pakistan.

The RIAF, though disorganized for a while under the impact of partition, did magnificent work dropping large quantities of food and other supplies for the displaced refugees stranded in isolated pockets during the Punjab holocaust and for the homeless people marooned by the unprecedented floods in East Punjab and removing thousands of them to places of safety.

Apart from the rescue and escort duties involved in this stupendous operation, the Army provided facilities for many refugee camps. In fact it undertook the management of some of them including the one at Kurukshetra with accommodation for 2[illegible]0,000 people.

Hardly had the internecine upheaval in the Punjab subsided than the Indian Army was called upon to intervene in Jammu and Kashmir to defend that State against tribal invaders who had poured in from across the Pakistan border. The main body of raiders armed with modern weapons drove down the Domel-Baramula road with Srinagar as their supreme objective. Within four days of crossing over they captured the Mahura power house [illegible]0 miles north-west of the State summer capital, thus plunging the whole of the Kashmir valley into darkness. Baramula, a bottleneck opening out into the Srinagar valley, fell into enemy hands and thus imperilled the safety of the capital itself.

In response to a distress call from the Maharaja and the people the first batch of Indian troops was flown to Srinagar in October 1947. Indian troops stabilized the position within a fortnight of their landing in Kashmir and secured the safety of Srinagar. Baramula was soon recaptured and in another week the invaders had been hurled beyond Uri, [illegible] miles west of Srinagar.

In the meantime the raiders in the Jammu Province had seized substantial territory adjoining the Pakistan frontier. The Punch *Jagir* and Mirpur district had been overrun by the raiders and the State garrisons stationed at various points in west Jammu were isolated and surrounded. Rushing to their aid Indian troops either relieved or reinforced the beleaguered garrisons and rescued thousands of refugees who had taken asylum there.

As the cold weather gradually brought activity in the different sectors of the Kashmir front to a standstill, fighting flared up in the Jammu Province. A force of raiders, 6,000 strong, mounted an all out three pronged assault on Naushera on February 6, determined to seize this strategic town. The enemy was defeated and suffered about 2,000 killed and many more wounded. But the Jammu Pakistan border now became the scene of several raids in which marauder bands adopted loot and flee tactics, burning villages, ransacking houses and abducting women. They made several attempts to disrupt the Indian supply line along the Pathankot Jammu road, but the menace was eliminated.

While the enemy continued to hold the border territory, the Indian garrison in the heart of the Punch *Jagir*, though beleaguered, fought on bravely. Repeated attacks and constant shelling by the enemy failed to neutralize it. A large share of the credit for the triumphant defence of Punch goes to the RIAF which, making use of a hurriedly improvised airstrip, flew innumerable sorties. Indian airmen carried arms and ammunition and food supplies and evacuated nearly 35,000 refugees.

Winter ended with the raiders still trying in vain to penetrate the defence at Uri and suffering setbacks one after another in Jammu. Alarmed at the possibility of Indian troops dislodging them from their strong entrenched positions and reaching Domel, Pakistan now

came out into the open and flung in regular battalions to checkmate the westward Indian drive Liquidating all Pakistani counter thrusts Indian troops set up a firm base at Uri

Meanwhile Indian troops in the Jammu Province moved from Naushera to Rajauri which fell to our forces on April 12 1948 after some stubborn resistance put up by the raiders Frustrated in their attempts to pierce gaps in the steel ring around the Kashmir valley the raiders diverted their attention towards the Ladakh Province of Ladakh leaving desecrated monasteries and looted villages in their trail The first contingent of Indian troops had trekked its way to Leh in February and early June 1948 flying over 3 000 feet high mountains the RIAF landed fresh troops there This force assisted by a local militia of Ladakhi Muslims and Buddhists routed the enemy and pushed him back to the fringe of the Ladakh valley

A record in the history of armoured warfare was created when some time in the middle of November 1948 seven light tanks of the Indian Army drove through snow capped and boggy tracts and over rock like glaciers and crossed *Zoji La* 12 000 feet above sea level leading to the recapture of Dras and Kargil Shortly after Indian troops in the Jammu Province forked out in two columns and effected a link up with the Punch garrison which had defied a siege for 1 month To link up with Punch Indian troops had to fight their way 4 miles through some of the most diffi

cult terrain overcoming fanatical resistance from the raiders strongly dug in on commanding heights. The defence of Punch will go down in history as one of the most outstanding achievements of free India's Army and Air Force.

There was no marked change in the military situation in the State until the cease-fire agreement on January 1, 1949.

While our soldiers and airmen were still engaged in the Kashmir operations, the Indian Army and Air Force had to fulfil an obligation in Hyderabad State. Owing to progressive deterioration in its internal situation consequent on the many atrocities committed by the Razakars — a militant communal organization led by Kasim Razvi, a rabid fanatic—with the connivance of the State police, the Indian Government was compelled to resort to police action to bring peace.

Indian troops entered Hyderabad territory on the morning of September 13, 1948 and marched along the Sholapur-Secunderabad highway to re-garrison Secunderabad and restore confidence among the panic-stricken people. Another column drove simultaneously from Bezwada to Hyderabad. The R.I.A.F. gave close support to ground troops. The G.O.C.-in-C., Southern Command, Lt. Gen. Shri Rajendrasinhji, gave an ultimatum to the Commander of the Hyderabad Army, Maj. Gen. El Edroos, at 1.0 p.m. on September 17, to which the Nizam responded by offering to capitulate



unconditionally Indian troops re-entered Secunderabad at 4 40 p m on September 18 1948 The following day Maj Gen Chaudhuri was appointed Military Governor of Hyderabad

Notwithstanding all these interruptions the Army has steadily grown into a powerful machine Weapons and equipment are being imported and a procurement agency has been set up at the High Commissioner's office in London Almost completely nationalized there are at present hardly any non Indians in the Army holding operational appointments Recruitment to the army has been thrown open to all irrespective of caste or creed and no class is now debarred from



The Hon'ble Sardar Patel takes the salute at the march past on the occasion of the inauguration of the Armed Forces Academy Dehra Dun

joining it. Entry into the army is now governed by merit alone. Thus the people's army will have only the pick of men recruited by means of fair and open competition.

Considerable advance towards the modernization of the RIAF, the youngest fighting service in the country, has been made since its independent existence, and it should soon be able to compare favourably with the air forces of other countries.

The RIAF has maintained the closest liaison with the RAF in Britain and air attaches are being appointed to Indian diplomatic missions abroad to study the

late t impro ement in foreign countrie and make i eful inf rmation available to the Air H Q Selected th) n t rien have been regularly sent for speciali l training to England and a permanent liai on staff i functi ning there to upervise Indian personnel ut l ing advanced cour es of instruction and like t to procure aircraft and equipment for India

The RIN was very much depleted by partition whereby India lo t three of its mo t vital trainin tabli hment besides a ho t of officers to Paki tan But the lo t thus u tained has since been made good and it trength has been n the increa e The old r ated by the Boy Training Sch ol at Karachi going to Paki tan ha been filled by a new school at Vizagapatam ( ) hin l as also become an important t aining ntre and a number of school for t aining in oth r ranches of the Service has been concentrated th r A naval c lle e is propo ed to be founded at Vizagapatam and when the cheme is implemented India will n r ce r quire l er emen t be sent to the Unit d Kingd m f r higher training

Th a quisiti n f HMIS Delhi 000 ton rui r t the former H A hich a HMS Achille an l ce wn in the battle f River Plate wa t ble vent n India s naval hist ry Be i l the R yal Indian N r l r ently a quired three de tr y r HMIS R jput HMIS Ranjit and HMIS Rana

A India rapidly exp nding Armed F rce mu t

be led by men of the highest calibre and integrity, the Government has embarked upon a plan of setting up a full fledged National Academy for the combined basic training of officer cadets of the three Defence Services In deciding upon this unique scheme, the Government was obviously guided by the experience of World War II which proved that success in modern warfare depended mainly on cooperation and coordination between the Fighting Services The National Academy will give the officer cadets good grounding in that inter service collaboration which is so necessary

The Academy will be located at Khadakvasla near Poona, amidst the picturesque surroundings of the Western Ghats The annual intake of cadets will provisionally be 300 and the course of training for entry into the permanent cadre of commissioned ranks in the three services will extend over four years Candidates between the ages of 1[illegible] and 17 possessing the matriculation certificate or a similar educational qualification will be eligible for admission There will be no system of allotment or reservation of vacancies for particular categories of individuals and selection will be [illegible] the combined results of a written test and [illegible] tion by modern psychological methods

Impressed by the necessity of cadet [illegible] specialized advanced training for the [illegible] Force at a relatively early age the [illegible] decided that the inter service course [illegible] years duration At the end of it [illegible]

cadets will leave the Academy for specialized trainin as arranged by their parent services while Army cadets will stay on for another year to complete their advanced training

As the installation of the National Academy will take some years to complete the Government started with effect from January 1949 an experimental Armed Forces Academy at Dehra Dun where courses are at present being conducted to train young men for commissions in the three Services Formally inaugurated on June 4 1948 the nursery of future officers of India s Army Navy and Air Force is successor to the Indian Military Academy which came into being 17 years ago It consists of a military wing comprisin the former IMA and an inter service wing Two thirds of the training is purely academic consisting of subjects like history economics civics sciences geography modern languages general knowledge and current affairs and only one third is service training

There are at the moment two types of courses being held at the military wing—normal half yearly entry and technical university graduates annual entry the duration of the former being two years and of the latter one year The six monthly entry course will continue only up to July 1950 because the output of the inter service wing will become available from January 1951 The graduate entry course has been specially designed to give military training to qualified engineers and technicians for the corps of RIAF Indian Signals and

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. It will be discontinued after a few years.

One of the lessons of the last world war was the universal acknowledgement of the value of scientific research for the Defence Services. In order to meet India's defence requirements, the Government is contemplating to have, as early as possible, an adequate Defence Science Organization. Preliminary steps in this direction have already been taken by the appointment of Dr. D. S. Kothari as Scientific Adviser and the establishment of a Policy Board, including three distinguished Indian scientists, and an Advisory Committee.

A three-day Defence Science Conference, sponsored by the Defence Ministry, was held in Delhi in the third week of April 1949. High ranking Army, Navy and Air Force officers and eminent professional scientists attended the Conference, which served as a meeting ground for discussion and exchange of ideas between scientists working in defence establishments and those in the universities and other research institutions. Several lectures were delivered and papers read on scientific subjects in relation to defence problems.

In order to have a second line of defence to the regular army, the Government has finalized the scheme of an Indian Territorial Army. Arrangements are now being made for recruitment to this force, which will have a target strength of 1 0,000. Besides reinforcing

the raising of units of all types in existence in the look after anti aircraft and coastal defence backed by a nucleus regular cadre In an emergency it will relieve the regular army partly or wholly of its internal security duties Open to all able bodied citizens the ITA will afford an opportunity to the youth of the country to receive part time military training Unlike the prewar Territorial Force which was composed of only a few infantry battalions the ITA plan envisages the regular army as and when required the ITA will regular army

Similarly with the object of stimulating interest among educated young men in the defence of the country a National Cadet Corps has been raised from all Provinces and major States It is composed of a senior and a junior division the former being intended for colleges and universities and the latter for schools A third division for girls will also start functioning soon The strength of the Corps this year in the colleges will be [illegible] 000 and in the schools [illegible]0 000 and the number is expected to grow from year to year Enrolment to it is entirely voluntary and there is no liability for service in the Armed Forces although it is hoped that the training will tend to make the younger generation disciplined and valiant and strong defenders of their motherland

INTERNATIONAL STATURE

"What does independence consist of? It consists fundamentally and basically of foreign relations. This is the test of independence. All else is local autonomy."

—The Hon'ble
Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru

THE summoning of a special session of the General Assembly of the United Nations Organization to listen to India's Prime Minister was a significant recognition of India's international stature. The rapid increase of diplomatic links between India and foreign countries is another indication of the same recognition.

Consequent upon India's attainment of independence an Indian High Commissioner was appointed in London. He was responsible for handling the political relations between the United Kingdom and India. He was also responsible for certain agency functions which

formerly were performed by the India Office The Indian High Commissioner in London has played an important part in preparing the ground for both the Dominion Conferences of October 1948 and April 1949

During the year the Indian High Commissioner in Canada was able to secure municipal franchise for Indians domiciled in British Columbia The federal franchise had been secured some time ago Permission was also obtained for the admission of young Indians seeking to enter Canada for the immediate purpose of marrying girls of Indian origin legally resident in that country and for relatives of persons of Indian origin who had reached an advanced age and required assistance in the management of their properties in that country

The Indian High Commissioner in Australia has succeeded in strengthening the political and commercial ties between India and that country British Indian subjects holding Australian passports were until recently required to return to Australia within a specified time limit as shown on their passports each time they left the country These restrictions were irksome A more satisfactory arrangement has now been negotiated under which re-entry will be permissible subject to compliance identity test

Many problems have arisen consequent upon the partition of India and the formation of Pakistan

These problems were handled by the Ministries concerned but the Ministry of External Affairs served as a coordinating agency

The citizenship of Indians resident in Ceylon was the most important problem which continued to receive attention during the year Prolonged negotiations on a draft Bill, which the Ceylon Government proposed to introduce in its Parliament, failed to bring about an arrangement The Indian community in Ceylon objected to the Ceylon Exchange Control Regulations which restrict remittances to India These objections were brought to the notice of the Ceylon Government and some relief was obtained

There has been no change in the relations between India and South Africa The new Government which came to power in South Africa on a declared programme of *apartheid* (segregation of non Europeans) has already taken certain measures to enforce its policy In addition Part II of the *Asiatic Land Tenure and Indian Representation Act* has been repealed This Act sought to give to Indians parliamentary representation through Europeans members selected by Indians In January 1949 there was a sudden outbreak of racial riots in Durban between the Indians and the Africans which involved serious casualties on both sides and considerable loss of Indian property The Government of India has done all it could to give succour to the persons affected by the riots irrespective of any racial consideration

The revised Immigration Restriction Bills were passed into law by the East African Legislature despite the objection of the Government of India and the local Indian community. The Government of India made it clear that it would not acquiesce in any legislation which adversely affected the rights and interests of its nationals abroad. The Government of the United Kingdom gave the assurance that the legislation was not directed against Indians. The administration of the new law will be watched and the matter considered afresh in the light of subsequent developments.

Since 1946 a demand had gained ground in Kenya for separate electorates for Muslims and non-Muslims, perhaps as a reflection of the political situation then existent in India. All attempts at compromise failed and the Government of Kenya decided to introduce separate electorates. As soon as this came to the notice of the Government of India it made vigorous representations to the Government of the United Kingdom. Eventually it was decided by the Government of Kenya to retain the electorate as they were but to reserve two out of the five Indian seats for Muslims in two double-member constituencies, each voter having one vote only.

The Government of India appointed a Commissioner in Mauritius during the year. This has succeeded in arousing great enthusiasm in the Indian community to retain their contacts with the mother country. As a result of the constitutional changes in Mauritius

Indians have secured eleven out of seventeen seats in the Legislative Council.

A Commissioner for India was appointed in Fiji. The Indian community, which is mainly composed of farmers and petty traders, has been hard hit by the levy of a residential tax of two pounds per head per year on persons who do not pay income tax. Representations were made to the United Kingdom Government urging the introduction of a more equitable system of taxation. This matter is still under consideration.

In the early months of 1949 strikes became almost chronic in certain parts of Malaya. As the labour population in the Malayan rubber estates is mainly Indian they were necessarily involved in these strikes. Through its representatives the Government of India has endeavoured to protect innocent Indians from the consequences of the various emergency measures imposed by the Malayan authorities. They have also urged the Government of the United Kingdom to consider the importance of improving the standard of living of labourers on plantations as the only antidote to communist propaganda.

The Indian Embassy in Egypt has established contacts not only with the Egyptian Government but also with the influential Arab League which has its headquarters in Cairo. It is expected that trade negotiations with Egypt for the purchase of cotton will be resumed

l nth For commercial as well as political reasons the Government of India considers it necessary to open a Legation in Iraq and it is hoped that in the near future an Indian Mission will be stationed at Baghdad There are large number of Indian employees of oil companies in the Persian Gulf and India has been doing considerable trade for centuries with this area Arrangements have recently been made to post a Trade Agent at Bahrein a Consul at Muscat and to authorize the Indian Consul at Basra to appoint a representative to look after the interests of Indians in Kuwait

The Indian Ambassador in Iran has been engaged in negotiations with the Iranian Government to redress the grievances of a large colony of Indian traders settled for long in that country It has been decided to open a Consulate in Khorramshahr to watch the interests of Indian employees of the Anglo Iranian Oil Company at Abadan and a Consulate General at Meshed which is an important place for Indian Shia [illegible] The Embassy in Iran is also negotiating a bilateral air agreement and draft treaties for postal and direct wireless communication

The exchange of diplomatic representative between Afghanistan and India has helped considerably to create in each country a new interest for the other and to strengthen the bonds of economic and cultural relationship

An Indian Goodwill Mission visited Ethiopia in

1948 and established close contacts with the Government and with non-official organizations. The Ethiopian Government has sent its Minister to India.

In Burma some five to six thousand Indians reside in areas which have been a scene of conflict between Karens and the forces of the Burma Government and some 200,000 in rebel-held areas. Through the good offices of the Indian Embassy some four thousand of them were evacuated to Rangoon. They are being given such relief as is possible with the assistance of the officials of the Burma Government and other non-official bodies. Funds have been placed at the disposal of the Ambassador for relief and for the repatriation of Indians who are not likely to be reabsorbed in the economic life of Burma. Shipping accommodation for them has also been arranged. Some groups have already arrived.

India is represented in Siam by a Minister at Bangkok and a Consul at Songkhla. There are about thirty thousand Indians in Siam and at the instance of the Indian Minister last year the Government of Siam permitted a large number of refugee Indians to take up permanent residence there. Negotiations are under way for a treaty of friendship and commerce and navigation between the two countries.

In Indo-China India has a Consulate at Saigon. There are about a thousand Indians in Indo-China.

It has now been raised to a Consulate General.

mo tly in bu me s or lomestic ervice In 1948 the French admini tration was induced by the Indian Consul to abolish a di crimin itory tax known as *Impot Gradué* As a result of negotiations between the Govern ment of India and the French Government facilities n a limite l scale have now been allowed to Indians living there to s nd remmittances to India

The Government of India and that of the Philip pines are considering propo als for a treaty There are about 1 300 Indians in the Islands most of whom carry on busine s on a small scale An Indian Consul General has been appointe l at Manila

India maintains a liaison office in Japan partly to keep in touch with the political development of the ountry and partly to further India s economi int re t

India ha an Embassy in Nanking and Consulates General in Shanghai and Kashgar Arrangements have been made in cooperation with other diplomatic repre sentatives to protect Indians in different cities during the current hostilitie In December 1948 an Indian Consulate General was for the first time establi hed at Kashgar There are colonies of Indian re i lents in all the oase of outhern Sinkiang Besides Kashgar is India s main window into Central Asia

There i an Indian Ambassador in Nepal and nego tiations with th Government of Nepal have been carried out su ces fully for the continued employment

of Gurkha troops in the Indian Army. Necessary facilities have been obtained from the Government of Nepal for work connected with the Kosi Dam which will benefit both Nepal and the Province of Bihar. There is an Indian Mission in Lhasa and a Trade Agent in Gyantse. A syndicate has been formed in Kalimpong composed of Indian merchants to further India's textile trade with Tibet.

There is an Indian Embassy in Paris. Negotiations are in progress for an early referendum to decide the future of French Settlements in India. Chandernagore has already voted to merge with India. Among the commodities which France can supply are steel, machinery, capital goods and chemicals and a French Trade Delegation is expected shortly in India. The Governments of India and France have signed an air agreement and a debt settlement agreement. The latter concerns French assets frozen in India during the war and Indian assets in metropolitan France as well as in the French colonial territories.

India has an Embassy in Belgium in charge of a Charge d' Affaires who is also accredited to Luxemburg. It is hoped that in the near future a trade agreement will be concluded between the two countries providing for technical and financial collaboration.

A treaty of friendship and establishment was concluded between India and Switzerland. The Indian Legation has made wide contacts with Swiss industrial

lists and prospects are being explored for the starting of factories in India with Swiss cooperation for the manufacture of machine tools, electrical goods and heavy machinery

The Indian Military Mission in Germany has so far repatriated about sixty Indians many of whom were political exiles. The Mission has also been instrumental in recruiting some fifty German technicians and scientists for employment in various industrial projects in India

Early in 1949 the Indian Legation was opened in Stockholm. Industrially Sweden is capable of supplying fine machinery particularly for hydro electric purposes, machine tools, also timber and wood pulp for paper manufacture. In 1948 India entered into an air agreement with Sweden

The Indian Legation in Italy was opened in January 1949. Italy is in a position to supply India with heavy chemicals and capital goods. She may also be able to render assistance in ship building. The Indian Minister in Berne accredited to the Holy See while the Holy See has established an Internunciature in Delhi

Since December 1948 India has an Embassy in France. A draft air agreement is under consideration

The Indian Embassy in Moscow has been developing cultural as well as political relations with the

created wide interest in India among all sections of the people of Brazil and has enabled India to build up contacts with other South American Republics. In response to invitations from Chile and Peru the Indian Ambassador is expected to visit these countries very shortly. A Commercial Secretary was recently appointed to the Embassy to watch India's trade interests in Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, Columbia, Venezuela, Argentina and Dutch Guinea.

The Governments of India and Argentina have recently exchanged diplomatic missions at Embassy level. Argentina has been an important source of supply of foodgrains and an agreement has recently been entered into by the two Governments for the supply of 38,000 tons of wheat to India in exchange for raw jute.

India is a member of the U.N.O. and its many specialized agencies such as Transport and Communications Commission, Economic and Employment Commission, Statistical Commission, Women's Rights Commission. It is worthy of note that in the interests of harmony among Asian nations India did not seek election to the seat on the Security Council vacated by Syria and in consequence Egypt succeeded Syria. India has a strong representation on many other bodies functioning under the auspices of the U.N.O. such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Health Organization, Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, International Labour Organization, International

Forest and Utilization Conference for Asia and the Pacific, Food and Agriculture Organization

The Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference opened in London on October 11, 1948, and concluded after a two week session The three important subjects discussed by the Conference were international relations, *economic affairs and defence* The Conference affirmed the desirability of all the Commonwealth Governments working together to establish world peace on a democratic basis, to build up the economic strength of their respective countries, to take appropriate measures to deter and resist aggression to encourage increased production of wealth and, lastly to formulate their policies

The Conference on Indonesia which lasted four days, met in New Delhi on January 20, 1949 The Governments of Afghanistan Australia Burma, Ceylon Egypt Ethiopia India Iran, Iraq, Lebanon Pakistan the Philippines, Saudi Arabia Syria and Yemen were represented by delegates at ministerial level, while China, Nepal, New Zealand and Siam sent observers

The Conference unanimously passed a resolution which demanded among other things the withdrawal of Dutch troops restoration of the Republican Government release of Republican leaders and the lifting of the economic blockade It also recommended that an Interim Government be formed by March 15, 1949, that

election for a Constituent Assembly be held by October 1, 1949 and that transfer of sovereignty should be completed by January 1, 1950.

The representatives of the United Kingdom, Australia, Ceylon and India met in New Delhi on February [illegible], 1949 to discuss the Burmese situation. There was a consensus of opinion that peace could be restored to Burma primarily through conciliation. The Conference unanimously decided to send a joint communication to the Burmese Prime Minister suggesting that an attempt be made to explore the chances for a peaceful settlement.

The Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India, Pakistan and Ceylon met in London on April 21, 1949 to exchange views on the important constitutional issues arising from India's decision to adopt a Republican form of Constitution and her desire to continue her membership of the Commonwealth.

According to the London Agreement India will be an independent sovereign Republic and yet remain a full and equal member of the Commonwealth of Nations freely cooperating in the pursuit of peace, liberty and progress. The Government of India has agreed to accept the King merely as symbolic head of this free association of independent members. The King will have no constitutional functions as far as India is concerned. The future head of the Republic

of India will be an elected President who will express the sovereign will of the people and exercise the functions hitherto performed by the King India will continue to enjoy full imperial preference in trade matters Within the Commonwealth, Indian citizens will continue to have all the rights they now enjoy

THE PRESS

WITH the attainment of freedom there dawned for the press in India a new era of public responsibility The ardour courage and discipline with which it fought for the country's independence had to be diverted to the task of protecting that independence against the perils of embittered communalism on the one side and economic revolutionarism on the other The struggle against both was primarily the Government's responsibility but the press could not shirk its own vital role Through the consultative machinery initiated as a war time measure the Government was able to establish a larger understanding with the organized press and the press extended to it its due measure of support in combating the danger to the new State On the positive side the press secured a notable triumph in gaining control over the supply of news to and from India through partnership with Reuters Agency And in the international field it gained increasing recognition for the ideals it strove for

By S K SRINIVASAN Ed[illegible]

1948, the second year of national freedom, was still a twilight year in Indian politics There was an angry red in the greying horizon and there was much groping in the dark on all sides The old regime saw in the nationalist press a natural hostile'' and had armed itself with extraordinary powers to control it The exigencies of the war gave an additional excuse for the enlargement of those powers The leaders of the new Government on the other hand were the friends and guardians of the nationalist press They had fought side by side with the leaders of the press against the obnoxious restrictions which prevented the press from fulfilling its obligations to the public When these leaders took over the responsibility of the Government, it was expected that the fetters on the press would forthwith be removed The Deputy Prime Minister voiced the same feeling in his message to the Madras session of the A I N I C in 1947, and said

> I hope that the labours of the Press Laws Enquiry Committee will soon lead to a reduction in the statutory limitations placed on the activities of the press during the last eighty years of its fight for freedom "

The work of the Committee was somewhat unexpectedly delayed but it persevered in its task and in May, 1948 it submitted its report

The principal recommendations of the Committee were the repeal of the notorious Indian Press Emerg

ency Power Act the Foreign Relations Act, the two States Protection Acts and amendments to a few other laws that interfered with the legitimate functions of the press. The implementation of these recommendations has been held up by the preoccupation of the Government with one emergency or another that keeps on cropping up month after month.

The obligation to tell the truth and the paramount duty not to publish incitements to disorder had to be delicately balanced and the All India Newspaper Editors' Conference found it necessary to formulate a code for the guidance of editors. From time to time additions and alterations were made in the code as the need of new developments demanded. It was a voluntarily drawn up code and was willingly observed by an overwhelming majority of newspapers. The code was accepted by the Government and in the exercise of their special powers the Government was largely guided by it. When the Government had to check the activities of some of the more virulent communal organizations they found it also necessary to take action against the newspapers which functioned as the mouthpiece of those organizations. From the point of view of the press this constituted an inroad on its freedom. The Government however took care to explain the implication of such restrictions and as the provincial governments generally acted after consultation with representatives of the press, the purpose of these restrictions was understood by the press and the public alike. There were some instances where the special

powers were used without sufficient cause but they were few. Taking it by and large, the Government has adhered to the consultative procedure and has acknowledged its usefulness in securing the cooperation of the press in working for common objectives.

As a happy instance of the cooperation between the press and the Government could be cited the Inter Dominion Agreement between Pakistan and India for the promotion of better relations. At the Conference held in Calcutta in May, 1948, it was agreed that the press in each Dominion should not:

(a) indulge in propaganda against the other Dominion,
(b) publish exaggerated versions or news of a character likely to inflame or cause fear or alarm, to the population or section of the population in either Dominion, nor
(c) publish material likely to be construed as advocating a declaration of war by one Dominion against the other or suggesting the inevitability of war between the two Dominions.

At the meeting in December, 1948, and February, 1949, a more comprehensive text was adopted under which all propaganda for the amalgamation of Pakistan and India or any portions thereof was to be discouraged. The President of the All India Newspaper Editors' Conference commended the agreement to the press saying: "We, the press of India are an organized body

and have a very important and leading role to play It is our duty to back our Government strongly and actively in its efforts to maintain harmonious relations with Pakistan

The most notable event in the story of the press in India during 19 8 was the formation of the Press Trust of India Ltd an organization to take over the supply of news to and from India The Press Trust is a non profit making institution and its membership is open only to newspapers in India As a result of successful negotiations with Reuters the Indian press has gained full control over its own internal news supply Coming on the heels of the transfer of power this control over her own internal news service gives India an independent status on the news map of the world

The supply of news to the Indian press was till now a virtual monopoly of Reuters a British owned news agency World news was supplied to the Indian press by Reuters and internal news by the Associated Press of India of which also Reuters were the proprietors There were complaints that news service to the Indian press was scrappy biased and on critical occasions anti national Attempts to organize competitive news service had proved unsuccessful Four years ago negotiations were started by the Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society for taking over the internal news service from Reuters The negotiations proved abortive on several occasions The change in the political

set up gave a fresh impetus and the negotiations which began last year proved successful A delegation of newspaper proprietors that went to London in May, 1948, under the leadership of Mr Kasturi Srinivasan, discussed terms, which though not accepted there, formed the basis of an agreement later in September The Government of India was aware of the final terms and it was after consulting them that the agreement was arrived at The announcement was made on September 21, 1948 The preamble lays down the fundamental basis of the Agreement It says

> "Both parties declare that they are news agencies serving no other purpose than the dissemination of truthful unbiased news, that they are free from any Government or tendentious control and that the news which they supply to each other, or sell to third parties in their corporate capacity shall be compiled and selected solely on its objective news value"

The partnership besides giving the Indian newspapers ownership and control over the internal news service also gives them a share in the ownership of Reuters and in association with the other owners gives them the opportunity to organize and direct the collection and distribution of world news in the international field

In the second week of March, 1949 a delegation of the Reuters Board arrived in India to signalize the

ommencement of the new partnership Lord Layton Chairman of the Reuters Board headed the delegation The other members of the Mission were Mr R A Henderson of the Australian Associated Press Mr Malcolm Graham of the Wolverhampton Star Mr C J Chancellor General Manager of Reuters and Mr Walton A Cole Managing Editor of Reuters At a joint meeting of the Reuter Mission and the Board of the Press Trust of India held in Madras on March 1[?] felicitatory messages were exchanged The Reuter Mission then visited other newspaper centres where they were received and entertained with a warmth and goodwill unparalleled in the history of British delegations

The central feature of the new set up was well described by Lord Layton when he said in a speech at Madras

> Just as my country came to the conclusion that there must be and ought to be a transfer of power so we Reuters also came to the conclusion that it was quite wrong for an outside body to be running the internal news agency of India And the transfer of power to the Press Trust of India is precisely what we have been carrying through over recent months

The attitude of the Indian Government toward the agreement was made clear when Sri R R Diwakar Minister for Information and Broadcasting associated

himself with the welcome accorded to the Delegation, at a dinner given in their honour by Sri Devadas Gandhi, President of the A I N E C, Sri Diwakar said that it was a matter for congratulation that soon after the attainment of freedom the Press Trust had been able to enter into partnership with one of the biggest world news agencies He expressed the hope that the new cooperative venture based on goodwill and understanding would prosper to enable it to serve the world

Internationally, the Indian press is receiving increasing recognition The Czechoslovakian Government invited a party of Indian Journalists to visit the Sokol Festival in Prague in 1948 The late Mr Brelvi represented India at the Freedom of Information Conference held in Geneva As continuing machinery for implementing the approved conventions, the U N Sub Commission on the Freedom of Information and the Press was reconsituted this year Sri Devadas Gandhi was elected to the Sub Commission with the maximum number of votes

Altogether the second year of freedom has been to the press as it has been to the new Government, a year full of events, of perils as well as of achievements

THE GROWTH OF TRADE UNIONISM

TRADE Unionism in the modern sense of the term is of recent origin in India. It is a corollary to the dawn of the industrial age and to the development of a new system of capitalism. This does not mean that organizations of craftsmen or workers for the protection of their common rights and interests did not exist in India before. In ancient India there were fully developed guilds of craftsmen which, as historical evidence affirms, were securely entrenched in society and had their own powers, prestige and privileges. Some of the guilds enjoyed legislative and executive powers. They regulated the hours of work, terms of employment and conditions of trade and training of workers. As a matter of fact one of the most important functions of the guilds was to train workers in the craft concerned. The guild was like the present day closed shop unions in which persons belonging to a particular functional caste only were admitted and trained. This was mainly responsible for the training of highly efficient craftsmen. But it will be wrong to compare a

By the Hon'ble Sri JAGJIVAN RAM, Minister for Labour

modern trade union with these guilds, which did not consist exclusively of workers but included entrepreneurs and master craftsmen who supplied capital as well as skill

Industrial development in India dates from the second half of the 19th century, when the first cotton and jute mills were started in Bombay and Bengal respectively That must be taken as the starting point of the new phase of the labour movement in India As early as 1874, a question asked in the House of Commons drew the attention of the Secretary of State for India to the "dangers which might arise from the treatment of little children in the growing cotton industry in India" In February 1875 he was reminded of the necessity to protect the life of women and children, employed as they were "systematically for 16 hours a day, and in many cases even including Sundays" The result was the appointment of the first Bombay Factory Commission to look into these complaints It was also at this time that a few broadminded social workers under the leadership of Mr N M Lokhande, started an agitation to draw the attention of the Government to the wretched condition of industrial workers In 1890 Mr Lokhande presented the demands of the Bombay mill workers before the Commission, which included a demand for limitation of working hours a weekly rest day, a mid day recess and compensation for injuries He was elected President of the Bombay Mill hands Association and started the first working class newspaper *Dinabandu* The

trend of the Indian Labour Movement from 18‥ to 1918 was characterized by a tendency to petition memorialize and seek redress of grievances by mild pressure Strikes were also resorted to but they were not many

In Madras a patriotically disposed journalist Mr B I Wadia who was the *assistant editor of Mrs* Annie Besant s *New India* was moved by the woes of the factory workers in that city and threw his weight on the side of the workers He founded the Madras Labour Union in 1918 which was perhaps the first trade union with regular membership and a system of payment of subscriptions It served to bring about substantial redress of the workers grievances In 19 1 the Madras employers conspired to set at naught the strength and influence of this new organization Taking advantage of the absence of any statutory protection generally afforded to trade unions *in other* countries the Madras employers obtained an injunction from the High Court restraining the workers of the Union from participating even in their normal activities This gave the Union a death blow But it did not die in vain It laid the foundation of the trade union legislation in India which was passed in 19 6 and guaranteed to workers organizations the immunity which they deserved

The first impact of a new consciousness among workers and an urge for unity for collective bargaining and concerted action was felt during the period

following World War I. The war had brought huge profits to industrialists but had also forced the prices up. Thus there was a lag between wages and prices. This was responsible for a strike wave in 1918-1919. The initial success which attended some of these strikes brought greater solidarity to labour ranks and strengthened the workers' faith in the effectiveness of joint action. The great upsurge of political consciousness resulting from the countrywide movement started by Mahatma Gandhi in 1920-1921 produced a profound effect on the labour movement as well and electrified the whole situation. The Indian National Congress, at its Nagpur Session in 1920, passed a general resolution expressing its sympathy for labour.

It is impossible to narrate the story of the labour movement in India without a reference to Mahatma Gandhi's personal contribution to it. Steeped as India then was in the traditions of political slavery, the dignity of labour had ceased to be recognized. Through his great freedom movement and constant preaching, Mahatmaji successfully strove to restore the dignity which is the legitimate due of the worker. He changed the concept of social values and by identifying himself openly with the toiling masses, the oppressed, the down-trodden and the exploited, he gave these elements a cheering message of hope — the first streak of light in the dark dungeons of their lives. While this in itself was a most valuable aid which the working class movement in India received from the Father of the Nation, his association with labour was even more

direct and intimate. In fact if we take into account the heroic and historic struggle he put up against the tyranny perpetrated on the Indian emigrant labour in South Africa, Gandhiji could rightly be called the first leader of the Indian Labour Movement.

When he returned to India, duty called him to lead a struggle which the Ahmedabad mill workers had started in March 1918. The Ahmedabad employers had declared a lock-out in the hope of demoralizing the workers and bypassing their demand for a wage increase. Gandhiji was convinced of the justice of the workers' demand and of the utter indefensibility of the stand taken by the millowners. He employed a new technique of resistance. The employers did their best to break the backbone of this resistance but Mahatmaji undertook a fast for an indefinite period to vindicate his stand. This stirred the conscience of the other party who agreed to arbitration. Consequently a wage increase to the extent of 35 per cent was secured for the workers. It was a great triumph for the workers who found in Mahatmaji their saviour. The bond of attachment forged by this struggle led to the formation of a number of trade unions in Ahmedabad in 1920 which Mahatmaji tended with paternal care.

The Ahmedabad Labour Association which owes its birth to his inspiration, is even today a bulwark of workers' solidarity and an example of what honest trade unionism can achieve not only as a shield against employers' unfair dealings but also as an instrument

for the promotion of welfare and higher moral and material standards This association is even today a *perfect pattern of cooperative and constructive effort*— a glorious example of the success of the method of co operation aided by conciliation and arbitration as against that of conflict and hostility

The All India Trade Union Congress was established in 1920 as a central organization of labour Though it was organized with the object of securing representation at the I L O Conference at Geneva, there was no doubt historical necessity for it There was a growing realization of the need for an apex organization which could coordinate the work of the unions and speak with one voice for the workers in India The All India Trade Union Congress received unstinted support from all quarters including top ranking Congressmen Owing to internal dissensions however a section led by the moderates seceded from this body and formed a National Federation of Trade Unions This secession continued till 1938 when the new organization was merged again with the All India Trade Union Congress on the principle of equal representation

With the assumption of office by Congress Ministries in most of the Indian Provinces, the Trade Union Movement received a great impetus New unions were formed and there was a tendency on the part of workers to press for the recognition of their rights more vigorously than at any time before Some of the Congress ministries initiated enquiries into the work

ing conditions of labour with a view to their amelioration.

The attitude of the All India Trade Union Congress towards the war was responsible for the creation of another central trade union organization, the Indian Federation of Labour under the guidance of the Radical Democratic Party led by Mr. M. N. Roy. This organization practically disappearing has only lately merged with the Hind Mazdoor Panchayat organized by the Socialists. The growing influence of the communists on the A.I.T.U.C. led to many complications and certain sections of labour workers in India found it increasingly difficult to continue to work under the aegis of that body. With the establishment of the Indian National Trade Union Congress the leadership of the older body has been assailed. This organization was inaugurated in May 1947 by the Congress President Acharya Kripalani. The I.N.T.U.C. had a phenomenal growth and it now claims to be the largest representative organization of Indian workers. On the other hand the influence of the A.I.T.U.C. has waned considerably. Large numbers of unions have seceded from the A.I.T.U.C. and joined the I.N.T.U.C. or one of the two recently formed central organizations—the Hind Mazdoor Sabha and the United Trade Union Congress.

Trade Unionism in India is still in its formative stage. During the last few decades a new class of industrial workers has been growing steadily as dis

tinct from the migratory labour force from villages. While the link between the village and the industrial centres is still maintained, there is a tendency on the part of the industrial labour to stabilize itself. As this process goes on, there will be greater consolidation of the labour movement. A new class consciousness is growing and class conflict is mounting. But a conflict of this kind is bound to have violent repercussions on Indian economy. The country has to be saved from the disasters of a headlong plunge into class war. The path of cooperation rather than of conflict is the golden mean. But the worker finds it extremely difficult to avoid being confused or lost in the contrary currents of persistent propaganda.

During the last three years the policy pursued by the central and provincial governments has given a great fillip to labour organizations and trade union activities. A comprehensive programme of labour legislation both in the matter of protective and ameliorative measures has been launched. To encourage healthy trade unionism in India and to develop trade unions on sound lines, a comprehensive amendment of the Indian Trade Unions Act is to be undertaken soon. It will provide for compulsory recognition by employers of unions satisfying certain statutory requirements, and for the elimination of unfair practices by employers as well as workers. It will seek to place certain responsibilities and conditions on the unions so that they may work efficiently, maintain proper accounts and not go on lightning strikes. Indian labour is now

a vital f rc t lc r koned with The tri partite prin ipl of r p c n n which the Ministry of Labour is s n l n l f n g in the constitution of its com mittee m t f tt r gives to labour a status of ab olute n dit v ul n ployers We work on the new onc pt tl t n l r is a partner in industry and not r c r n ltty t r t ree Thus labour is attract ing t t r t t atten n from all quarters as they vi ualize th h l t t h h the influence of labour will n n t r g v r This h l led to the form ition of a l n let f tr h unions in the l1st two or thre v t ml l l to n re ed membership The figure g v t r the n xt p ge indicate without any l ubt th t tl gr th f trade unions has been rather ph n m n l ft r tl f rmation of the Interim Govern ment t the Cent e m 1946

Th c figure are mainly of industrial labour The agri ultural lab our whi h preponderates in this coun try l far l en ignored owing to the difficulties inf r r t nization But it i being rec gnized that n lal r r v r t will succeed unless it is all emb r ing r it in lu l ll ateg ries of labour in cluding th w rkers in the field

With th intr luction of adult franchise the w rth of the w rker will lc rightly asse sel The labour movement will tend to lc the arena in which various political parties and aspirants to p wer will measure their strength Thi creates a complex pr blem The labour movement in India is already suffering from a

Year	Number of registered trade unions	No of unions from which returns under the Act were received	Total membership of the Unions shown in column 3: Men	Women	Total	Average membership per union making returns	Percentage of Women members
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1927 28	29	28	99,451	1,168	100,619	3,594	1 2
1932 33	170	147	232,279	5,090	237,369	1,615	2 1
1937 38	420	343	375,409	14,703	390,112	1,137	3 8
1938 39	562	391	388,214	10,945	399,159	1,013	2 7
1939 40	667	450	492,526	18,612	511,138	1,136	3 6
1940 41	727	483	494,415	19 417	513,832	1,064	3 8
1941 42	747	455	556,426	17,094	573,520	1,260	3 0
1942 43	693	489	659,327	25,972	685,299	1,401	3 8
1943 44	761	563	760,101	20,866	780,967	1,387	2 7
1944 45	865	573	853,073	36,315	889,388	1,552	4 1
1945 46	1087	585	825,461	38,570	846,031	1,480	4 5
1946 47	1725	998	1,267,164	64,798	1,331,962	1,335	4 1
1947 48	2773	1622	X	X	1,662,929	X	X

x figures in respect of these are not yet available

ertain predominance of political influence which sometimes interferes with the growth of healthy trade union traditions Unless the parties are very scrupulous there is a tendency to misuse their hold on labour and to allow trade unionism to degenerate into a sordid manoeuvre for political gains The baneful effects of such tendencies is already manifest and is causing anxiety to those who have the good of the country at heart I hold rather strong views in this matter I stand for the workers managing their own affairs unaided by sympathisers or self appointed leaders. The ignorance of the worker on account of illiteracy makes him open to exploitation But I feel that the tremendous awakening that has taken place during the last two years tends to make the worker wiser He will soon realise that it is best if he were left to himself and that he should not be asked to pull the chestnuts out of the fire for the careerist masquerading as a labour leader I have faith in the future of the Indian worker I have faith in the soundness of the trade union principles The Indian working class is fast coming into its own

THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT

THE Women's Movement in India has been an aspect of the widespread awakening of national conscience against tyranny and oppression. Unlike its western counterpart, it has been much more than the expression of an angry feminist revolt against the disabilities of women. Indian women have realized all along that their specific problems could not be considered in isolation, for they formed part of a general pattern and that the position of women could best be reviewed in the context of the social structure. The outstanding characteristics of the movement, therefore, have been its alignment with progressive forces and its close and friendly cooperation with all those agencies, composed of men or of women, that have laboured for the removal of social injustice and the recognition of inherent human rights.

Motivated and vitalized as the Women's Movement

By Srimati HANNAH SEN, Hon. Secretary, United Nations Appeal for Children, Indian National Committee.

has been by economic trends and political upheavals its early phases were naturally linked up with the grim struggle for the larger principle of national freedom Women fought in fellowship with men suffered indignities and sought imprisonment and even died thereby contributing in no little measure to the final achievement of India s independence Their broadbased patriotism and their wise understanding of the fundamental causes underlying their social backwardness won a ready welcome for them as equal partners of men entitled to an equal share in the profits of victory This appreciation of the true value of women is reflected in the Objectives Resolution of 194 and is later reaffirmed in the clauses of the Constitution on Fundamental Rights which guarantee to all citizens equality of status before the law regardless of their sex religion caste or creed In consonance with this in free India today women are being accorded numerous opportunities to come forward and share in the task of national reconstruction

With the dawn of India s freedom the foreign and political as well as the administrative services once the closely guarded preserves of men were thrown open to women and women were recruited even to the medical wing of the armed force It is gratifying to know that a steady stream of women is now entering nearly every avenue of service The names of India s women administrators her women ambassador and cabinet minister her women representatives in legislatures and on international bodies have become house

hold words They belong to the category of top-ranking women There is a host of others also, not only in the old recognized vocations of the teacher, the doctor and the nurse, but also as office secretaries, stenographers and clerks, telephone operators, bus conductors and police women Indeed this rapid emancipation of women in recent months, resulting in their increasing participation in the services and the professions is part of a dream come true

The credit of much of the success of the Women's Movement lies with the women's organizations They are the means through which the Movement has functioned and grown Scattered throughout the length and breadth of the country, in a variety of forms and with a variety of objectives the influence of those organizations has been incalculable The most significant and far reaching among them have been the National Council of Women in India with its nine subsidiary Councils, and the All India Women s Conference with well over two hundred branches and sub branches It was at the second session of the All India Women's Conference that the women accepted the challenge of tell us with one voice what you want and keep on telling us till you get it " A brief analysis of the present status of women will give some indication of the changes that have been effected by years of untiring agitation and the vast volume of propaganda released by the women's organizations

In the field of education the principle of extending

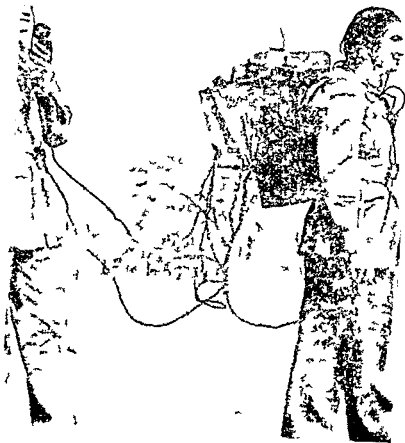
faciliti s for general education and specialized training has been accepted This will enable women to enter the services in larger numbers than before particularly in such professions as teaching and nursing which are badly understaffed The old attitude to the education of women has changed and it is no longer the education of women that is thrown overboard in times of financial stringency Though the disparity in numbers between educated men and women is still great being five to one the duality of an educated manhood and an educated womanhood so deeply regretted in an educational report of a quarter century ago is steadily disappearing No form of education is now denied to women and in all schemes of expansion equal emphasis is laid on the education of boys and girls

Another feature of the Women s Movement is the recognition of franchise rights of women without getting any special rights such as the reservation of seats in the legislatures and on municipal boards Such privileges were regarded and rightly so as a violation of the principle of equality between the sexes Women pressed for the open door of election and adult suffrage These have been conceded and women stand today on parity with men

The Rau Hindu Code Bill at present before the Indian Parliament represents one more step forward It is not the only legal enactment affecting the status of women From time to time in the past several

isolated measures of reform were initiated at the Centre and in the Provinces, to meet specific grievances But the women's organizations persistently objected to such piecemeal legislation and pressed for a unified system of law applicable to the whole of India The Hindu Code Bill was drawn up in response to their demand In dealing with such problems as marriage divorce, adoption, guardianship and inheritance, the Code seeks to interpret the ancient laws in terms of modern trends and in the context of the new status of complete equality assured to women Some of the changes embodied in the Code have already been accepted in the Provinces For example Madras and Bombay have passed laws to enforce monogamy and to permit divorce The Code attempts to apply the same reforms to the whole of India From the women's point of view however the Code has many defects but it is admittedly a move in the right direction Inasmuch as it aims at equalizing inheritance rights of sons and daughters, at giving the mother or the widow an effective say in the adoption of a son at conceding the claim of the mother to be the natural guardian of her children at raising the women's 'limited estate' to one of absolute control over her property and at validating inter caste marriages, the Code must have the support of all right thinking people It is regrettable that its passage through the legislature has been delayed

There are other anomalies in the social system that call for adjustment They too are engaging the atten



tion of social reformers and legislators. In Madras and elsewhere, the question of dowry is being considered and it is hoped that India will soon put an end to practices that are humiliating to her women and are in contravention of recognized human standards.

Women's organizations have taken up economic questions also and are helping in the general endeavour to secure that every citizen shall have the essential necessities of life and satisfactory conditions of work. It is in such a setting that women's specific demands for maternity benefits and "equal pay for equal work" have taken shape. An extension of this aspect of women's interests may be seen in the programmes for the relief and rehabilitation of displaced women and children drawn up and executed by the Women's Sections of the Central and provincial governments.

Because of the improved status of women and their widened spheres of activity, it is argued that women's organizations should close down, for they have played their part. Women, it is averred, should help in building the new social order not as women but as equal citizens with men. While it is true that the law has virtually granted equality of status to women, in actual practice much is being done to impede their advance. The Hindu Code Bill is still on the anvil, and in the press and on the platform there are still frequent murmurings about women 'descending from their high pedestal', losing their essentially feminine quali

Professors from the various women's

ties and seeking jobs in competitive fields with men As long as such conservatism remains rampant and alive it underlines the need for women s organizations and a women s movement These must remain the channels through which organized effort may continue to be directed against retrogressive factors and outmoded beliefs

SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS

An impartial observer, while conceding without reservations the potential scientific talent of our youth would be constrained to remark on the unsatisfactory quality and quantity of the work done. The reason for this is not so much a genuine lack of laboratories and equipment as the scarcity of eminent scientific leadership, the want of a single minded purpose among students and the absence of the scientific spirit in most educational and research institutions.

The work done in Physics has put India on the scientific map of the world. It is indeed satisfying that the year under review is the twentieth anniversary of the discovery of the Raman Effect which still stands as the greatest single contribution made by Indian Science to mankind and also the sixtieth birthday of its illustrious discoverer. In the past year significant work has been done by Prof. C. V. Raman and his

By Sri NIRA VASAN, Director, Science News Service

collaborators at Bangalore on the dynamics of crystals like diamond, rock salt and quartz. From very simple considerations it has been possible to make remarkable predictions concerning the vibrations of the atoms in crystals. Most solids are crystalline in nature and a knowledge of the modes of vibration of the atoms in them gives valuable insight into their physical properties. The studies in crystal dynamics therefore have opened up new vistas of experimental and theoretical research on the solid state. Work on optics has recently been initiated in the newly created Raman Research Institute at Bangalore, of which he is the Director. Atomic and molecular spectra, X-rays, magnetism and elasticity may be mentioned among the allied fields of investigation in this country.

Dr. H. J. Bhabha and his associates at Bombay are conducting extensive studies on the nature and origin of cosmic rays. High altitude balloons with radio and recording equipment are being sent up into the stratosphere from various parts of the country. The cosmic rays which abound in that rarefied atmosphere impress themselves on the special nuclear photographic plates and provide a wealth of material for detailed investigation. In addition to these experimental researches, Dr. Bhabha has contributed some theories on fundamental particles to mathematical physics. Besides such other work on applied mathematics, considerable progress has been made on the more abstruse section of pure mathematics such as topology, finite geometry and the number theory. It was in this realm of num

bers that the immortal Ramanujam reigned supreme and brought his country great renown

In the subject of Paleobotany, very interesting work on the age of the salt ranges of the Punjab was cut short by the sudden and unexpected death of Prof Birbal Sahni From an examination of the micro flora or the minute fossil plants embedded in the mighty walls of white salt, he was able to determine the period of their formation Paleobotany or the science of fossil plants is an astounding example of the interdependence of various branches of science Prof Sahni's pioneering investigations led him to the study of such apparently diverse subjects as botany geography physics and geology Undoubtedly one of the foremost men in this field it is indeed regrettable that the newly created Institute of Paleobotany at Lucknow should be deprived of its distinguished founder at its very inception

In the sister domain of geology there have been numerous findings that throw light on the manner of formation and nature of distribution of volcanic rocks On the prospecting side deposits of a variety of economic and strategic minerals have been located in different parts of the country The success here has been comparatively limited and this may be attributed to the use of conventional methods of deposit location It is high time that geophysical techniques are adopted on a national scale for mineral prospecting as this would greatly increase efficiency and perhaps reveal

have been studied in detail The last two, anti tuber cular in action, are obtained from garlic and drumstick respectively A detailed scientific study of the principles of the numerous well known medicinal herbs used in indigenous systems of medicine might perhaps bring to light other valuable drugs

It is rather unfortunate that in a predominantly agricultural country like ours science should have come so little to the aid of the farmer Although great strides have been made in agricultural research, the fruits of these findings have not been utilized by the average cultivator This is because of the illiteracy, ignorance and superstition that exist amongst the peasants of this land Progress in science alone would be meaningless if steps are not taken to interest and convince the tiller of the soil of the efficacy of scientific methods

The acre yield of any crop depends on the use of improved implements better seed proper manuring adequate irrigation and prevention of loss due to diseases and pests In the new areas brought under cultivation mechanized farming has been introduced wherever possible Growing seed of improved varieties is a recognized means of increasing production It can be said without fear of contradiction that experiments carried on in this direction in India compare favourably with those elsewhere Improved varieties capable of giving high yields have been bred in several crops like sugar cane rice cotton wheat and ground

nut Modern genetical methods are being used to breed crops that are resistant to diseases insects unfavourable climatic conditions and those with better physiological characters better nutritional quality and a minimum of maturing period

Efficient and economic methods have been evolved to manure crops by a judicious combination of organic and chemical fertilisers Enough experimental results are available in this country showing the nature and quantity of different manures needed for particular crop The biological control of the borer pest in sugar cane has been successful and outstanding results of work on the fungus disease Koleroga of areca and coffee in South India have been of great practical value in saving these two highly commercial crops Numerous river valley projects have been launched all over the country to provide adequate irrigational facilities for more than two thirds of our arable land They will serve the dual purpose of flood control and generation of electric power Investigations are also being made in hydraulic engineering and soil erosion In developing a suitable sampling technique for estimating crop yield a notable contribution was made to agricultural statistics

In nutritional and biochemical research a number of deficiency diseases have been studied and attempts have been made to find out suitable remedial measures Interesting results have been obtained from work on carbohydrate and mineral metabolism The physiolo

gical role of vitamins, especially A and C, have received considerable attention. New enzymes with different properties have been isolated from both plant and animal sources. Sweet potato amylase has been prepared for the first time in this country in a crystalline form. A good quality rennet suitable for making cheese has been prepared from fig juice. Systematic investigations have been carried out into the detailed composition of milk of different breeds of cows, buffaloes and sheep. Cytogenetic studies show that yeasts obey the same laws of heredity and variation as obtained in the case of higher organisms. The demonstration of chromosomes in yeasts has facilitated the artificial production of new species of yeasts by the traditional techniques of genetics. Some of these species produced by mutation have been found to be better equipped for exploitation in industry. Investigations have made it possible to isolate and develop a strain of yeast capable of fermenting molasses and yielding beer of high alcoholic content. Experiments have been made regarding embryology of vertebrates and especially problems relating to the development of fish roe for purposes of stocking ponds.

Fuel technological processes have been developed for effective and economic washing of large varieties of Indian coal in order to reduce the ash content and also to produce a final solid product of value from non-coking small slack. The desulphurization of Assam coal at high temperatures has also been investigated. Experiments were conducted on the carbonization of

different mixtures of caking and non-caking coals to produce metallurgical coke.

Space does not permit the enumeration of various miscellaneous achievements which are nevertheless of importance. The first plane, a two-seater trainer, is being designed at Bangalore. Ionospheric researches have been persistently pursued. Scientific expeditions are being sent to the Himalayas to study conditions at high altitudes. Snow surveys have been undertaken. Invaluable archaeological treasures have been unearthed. A history of chemistry in ancient and medieval India is under compilation.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

THE setting up in June, 1948 of a separate Department of Scientific Research directly under the Prime Minister was an important step. It was in line with the most advanced views on scientific planning and indicates the importance which the national Government attaches to science as an instrument of national welfare.

The Department of Scientific Research, assisted by an Advisory Committee consisting of eminent scientists, gives scientific advice to the Government and other Departments, institutes *ad hoc* research in universities and research institutions, organizes Scientific Liaison Offices to promote liaison with other countries, international scientific unions and commissions, and deals with such other subjects as may be referred to it.

A scheme has been prepared for the establishment

By Sri KRISHNAMURTI, Council of Industrial and Scientific Research.

set up under the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. The chief function of this Board is to promote scientific research on atomic energy and subsidize such research in universities and research institutions in the country. It is also taking steps to enlarge and improve the teaching of nuclear physics in the universities. The beach sands of Travancore abound in thorium, an important raw material for the production of atomic energy. A research project has been completed for the separation of thorium from the monozite sands of Travancore and processing on a commercial scale is expected to start shortly. The Board has also initiated important schemes of research on transuranic elements, cosmic rays and the use of radio active isotopes in biological research.

The expansion of the activities of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has been steady and spectacular and the many contributions which the Council has made in the past are very well known.

An idea of the increasing activity of the Council can be had from the following approximate expenditure figures for the last few years.

Year	Rs
1945-46	2,800,000
1946-47	5,100,000
1947-48	6,800,000
1948-49	9,800,000

The figures represent the money spent on financing scientific research schemes all over the country and the amounts utilized for the building and equipping of the national laboratories.

With the founding of the Electro Chemical Research Institute at Karaikudi, the Drug Research Institute at Lucknow and the Institute of Food Technology at Mysore, the Council has fulfilled its task of setting up a chain of eleven national research laboratories to meet the basic needs of most of the productive industries in the country.

Many of these laboratories have already started functioning and a good deal of active research is in progress, as a result of which many valuable results have already accrued. Of the work of these laboratories, the outstanding contribution of the Fuel Research Institute needs special mention. As a result of laborious and painstaking work carried out at the Institute, two valuable reports have been issued, one on the washability of coal and the other on the blending of coal for coking purposes. The former deals with the cleaning characteristics of about 1[illegible]0 samples of coal from Jharia coalfields. The report incorporates data of some [illegible]00 semi large scale tests. Based on this, the important conclusion has been arrived at: the coals in seams below No. X in Jharia fields and containing not more than [illegible] per cent ash are worth washing. This gives hope for a more extensive utilization of Jharia coals for coking purposes.

The second report reveals that when mixed with good coking coal of caking index 15 or over, poor caking coals can be admixed in different proportions to give satisfactory blends These conclusions are valuable, they indicate a definite extension of the lease of life for the meagre coking coal reserves of the country Other important research schemes under active investigation at the Fuel Research Institute are production of liquid fuel from coal survey of the nation's fuel resources for which five regional labora tories have been set up and the development of a powdered coal fired gas turbine for locomotives The last scheme is expected to cost Rs 4 000 000 and the turbine to be developed is expected to be three times more efficient than the steam locomotive

In recent years researches carried out under the auspices of the Council have proved to be of great significance in revealing the vast industrial potential of the country and have resulted in the utilization of her resources along fruitful lines Glandular products like insulin adrenaline pituitrin and thyroxine mosquito repellant creams and pyrethrum sprays medicinal preparations from *neem* and the like are a few of the products which are being made on a pilot plant scale Various indigenous drugs have been investigated and an antibiotic research centre has been opened at the Haffkine Research Institute Bombay A special printing ink has been produced for use in post offices which is comparable in quality with the best of foreign

inks The chief ingredient of the ink is obtained from the marking nut

The Council's Physical Laboratory at Delhi has been the centre of research and testing of producer gas vehicle Considerable improvement such as the development of suitable filtering media have been introduced and different types of producer gas systems have been tested and standardized in this laboratory

The Government has entrusted the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research with the work of preparing a comprehensive register of scientific and technical man power available in the country Already information regarding over ... 000 scientists and technicians has been collected The first volume of the Register containing the engineering personnel will be issued shortly

The role of the Council in promoting cooperative industrial research in the country is a feature worthy of note The Council encourages the formation of cooperative research associations all over the country to serve the need of particular industries To a large extent industry in India is conducted by comparatively small firms and they cannot maintain research establishments themselves Cooperative research associations provide the means by which such firms can keep abreast of technical progress

The Ahmedabad mill owners have been the first to organize a Research Association for the Ahmedabad

textile industry and between themselves have subscribed a sum of Rs. 6,00,000 for the purpose. To this the Government of India has made a substantial contribution. This Association is now establishing a textile research institute at Ahmedabad which will cater to the needs of the industry as a whole and will carry out research on long range problems. A similar move is now afoot in Coimbatore and it is hoped that textile interests in South India will shortly organize a similar research association.

The example of the textile industry has been followed by the Tanners and Leather Manufacturers of Madras who have collected an initial contribution of over Rs. 200,000 to form a research association of their own. More recently the Silk and Art Silk Mills Association Limited, Bombay, have placed at the disposal of the Council a sum of Rs. 1,500,000 for organizing a research institute for the industry at Bombay. It is expected that the Government of India will, as in other instances, make a grant to supplement the industry's contribution. Other industries have followed suit and the latest instance is the establishment of an Institute of Jute Technology by the Indian Jute Mills Association. The Association has made a capital grant of Rs. 2,000,000 for the purpose and will also meet all the recurring expenditure.

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research soon after its foundation, started the *Journal of Scientific and Industrial Research* with the object of

giving publicity to scientific research carried out in various universities and research institutions in the country and in particular to the activities of the Council. It is in its eighth year of publication and has already won the warm appreciation of competent observers in India and abroad and has in no small measure helped to establish a link between science and industry. At about the same time the Council projected with commendable foresight a survey of information on the natural resources of India—a survey of fundamental importance to the economic development of this country. The first volume of this compendium *Wealth of India* has recently been published. In compiling this monumental work the Office of the Dictionary of Economic Products and Industrial Resources of India has built up a valuable repository of scientific information for the ready use of those interested in obtaining information on the plant, animal and mineral resources of the country.

An entirely new development in the field of scientific research is the initiation of a defence research programme in line with the other advanced nations of the world. A Defence Science Organization under the Defence Ministry has come into existence. The Defence Science Conference held in April last amply testifies to the keen enthusiasm on the part of the scientists in the country to co-operate with the Government in their plans to ensure national security.

INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS

MUCH water has flowed down the Ganges since the Industrial Conference was held at New Delhi in December, 1947. At that time, industrial activity was at its lowest ebb: prices were high, goods were scarce, corruption and black marketing were rampant and prophets of gloom confidently predicted that India would go the way of China. India is not yet out of the wood but the gloomy prophets have been falsified. Production is looking up, industrial relations are now better and the economic barometer seems set fair. If 1947 was a year of despair, 1948 was a year of economic stabilization and revival of confidence.

During the New Delhi Conference, the Government, labour and industry decided that official policy as well as private endeavour should aim at improving production. As elaborated in the Resolution of April

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By S. I. CURIEN J. KURRIEN, Director, Bureau of Commercial and Statistical Intelligence

(1948 the Government's industrial policy was aimed at raising output for a more equitable distribution. Any improvement in the economic conditions of the country, it was emphasized in the Government Resolution, postulates an increase in national wealth; a mere redistribution of existing wealth would make no essential difference to the people and would merely mean the distribution of poverty. A dynamic national policy must therefore be directed to continuous increase in production by all possible means, side by side with measures to secure its equitable distribution.

Not only was the fundamental objective of the Government's industrial policy defined but the spheres of economic activity in which progress was desirable were thus indicated in the Resolution. In the present state of the nation's economy, when the mass of the people are below the subsistence level, the emphasis should be on the expansion of production, both agricultural and industrial, and in particular on the production of capital equipment, of goods satisfying the basic needs of the people, and of commodities the export of which will increase earnings of foreign exchange.

Despite industry's undertaking to help raise production, private economic activity in the first few months of 1948 was hampered by a misunderstanding of the Government's nationalization policy. The policy as laid down in the Resolution of April 6, 1948, was

widely misinterpreted to mean that the Government would nationalize key industries ten years hence. The unjustified impression that the Government would take over all the major industries after the end of a decade retarded investment activity and private industry was neither eager nor willing to implement plans for expansion on the ground that it was no use going ahead with long term schemes with the sword of Damocles hanging over the private sector of the economy.

These apprehensions had no basis. The subsequent clarification of the Government's nationalization policy removed all doubts and fears. With the re-enunciation of the Government's nationalization policy, it is now evident that the Government has not decided to nationalize any industry in the sense of taking over existing undertakings. What it has decided is to reserve initiative for future development in some industries though even here the Government has made it clear that it may invite the cooperation of private enterprise when necessary.

Besides this reassuring clarification of the Government's nationalization policy, its disinflationary measures have provided a much-needed fillip to the private sector of industry. In pursuance of the advice and suggestions tendered by labour interests and top ranking industrialists and economists, the Government announced its policy to encourage production actively in order to combat inflation. In consequence import restrictions were relaxed to facilitate supplies

of plant and machinery depreciation allowances were liberalized *to* help speedy renovation of industrial machinery and industry was assured that all possible steps would be taken to ensure cheap supplies of raw material. These measures led to a gradual revival of confidence and of production although improved and improving industrial production failed to be reflected in higher stock exchange prices because of the growing apprehensions about world depression and the fast moving political developments in China, Burma and in the whole of South East Asia.

The assurances and facilities offered by the Government have induced private industry to go ahead with their expansion projects. The steel industry has finalized plans for increasing production which along with the Government plans for new steel works are aimed at reaching the country's production target for steel so as to minimize the need for imports which eat up India's foreign exchange resources. During 1948 the Steel Corporation of Bengal formulated plans for doubling their present production in the first stage and to raise it to [illegible] tons in the second stage. The first stage will take [illegible] years to complete and another [illegible] years will be required before the second *stage of expansion can be carried through. The Tata* Iron and Steel Works have also drawn up plans for expansion of their works.

It is now being realized by the steel industry that in spite of new steel works to be set up by the Govern

ment, there will be enough scope for the existing private undertakings to expand production. Besides, the price increases—once in 1948 and then again in 1949—allowed by the Government are expected to ensure smooth relations between labour and management thereby facilitating increased production.

In the textile industry—both cotton and jute—the main problem is the critical supply position of raw materials. Since partition Calcutta's jute mills have been almost entirely dependent on Eastern Pakistan for supplies of raw jute. The uncertain and irregular flow of raw jute has affected the production of jute goods. Moreover the price of raw jute is so high as to threaten India's jute industry which is a valuable earner of foreign exchange, and particularly of dollars. It is however hoped that the recent Indo-Pakistan Agreement for mutual exchange of essential commodities will minimise the troubles and difficulties which are now being experienced by the jute industry.

In the cotton textile industry too the problem of supplies of the right type of cotton has proved difficult. For various reasons mills have not always been able to secure supplies of raw cotton and the full quota of Pakistan cotton has not arrived. The supply position of raw cotton remains critical but the measures introduced by the Government are expected to ensure raw cotton supplies in the near future.

With the reintroduction of control on prices production and distribution of cloth by the middle of 1948 fears were entertained that such a detailed control policy might affect output. These fears have been falsified. In June 1949 the Government agreed to appoint a tripartite committee consisting of representatives of the Government, labour and industry to guide and direct the operation of control. It was also agreed that the cotton textile industry should be allowed more latitude and freedom to produce types which were and are in demand. Similar relaxations in the sphere of distribution were also announced. These modifications in the system of control on cloth are aimed at removing possible sources of friction so as to maximize the output of cloth.

Much has been achieved since the industrial truce. But much more remains to be achieved. For it cannot be too strongly emphasised that not only have the premises of post-war schemes been belied by events but the existing capacity still remains unutilised in most sectors of the industry. There are numerous and difficult hurdles yet to be crossed. Indian industry is coal-based. Coal production and despatches have been looking up. But the improvement has to be maintained. Despite the transport bottlenecks, efforts have been and are being made to speed up rail transport of industrial products. Despatches in respect of three of the most important industries, namely iron and steel, cement and textiles have appreciably improved in recent months.

India faces another set of problems through a worsening of the trade balance. It is now more widely realized that she cannot escape a trade deficit if her industrial aspirations are to be fulfilled. Britain's deteriorating dollar position may aggravate India's exchange problem. But industry can take comfort from the assurance given by the Government that all possible measures will be adopted to ensure supplies of capital goods and of the scarce raw materials of the industry.

Finally, there is the problem of industrial relations. Since the industrial truce, both labour and capital have honoured their pledges and undertakings, lock-outs and strikes have been few and far between. There is now agreement about fair wages; there are tripartite advisory councils at the Centre and in the Provinces to protect the interests of labour and capital; there are industrial tribunals for the peaceful settlement of industrial disputes. Without amicable relations between labour and capital production cannot be raised. And it is now a recognized fact that India must produce or perish. As the second year of independence draws to a close, the prospects look bright. The most encouraging sign of the times is the growing realization that economic stability is an essential pre-requisite to political progress.

BASIC EDUCATION OR NAI TALIM

IN April 19[illegible] *Nai Talim* completed [illegible] years of uninterrupted work. It had its modest beginning in an article by Gandhiji in the *Harijan* (July 31, 1937). While discussing the economics of prohibition he said: "As a nation we are so backward in education that we cannot hope to fulfil our obligations to the nation in this respect in the given time during this generation if the programme is to depend on money. I have therefore made bold, even at the risk of losing my reputation for constructive ability, to suggest that education should be self-supporting. By education I mean an all-round drawing out of the best in child and man — body, mind and spirit. Literacy is not the end of education nor even the beginning. It is only one of the means whereby men and women can be educated. Literacy in itself is no education. I would therefore begin the child's education by teaching it a useful handicraft and enabling it to produce from the moment

By Sri E. W. ARYANAIKAM, Secretary, Hindustani Talimi Sangh

it begins its training. Thus every school can be made self supporting, the condition being that the State takes over the manufactures of these schools.'

'I hold that the highest development of the mind and the soul is possible under such a system of education. Only every handicraft has to be taught not merely mechanically as is done today, but scientifically, i.e., the child should know the why and the wherefore of every process.'

To put these revolutionary proposals into action a conference of educational and social workers including the Education Ministers of the various Provinces, was called at Wardha in October, 1938. The broad principles of this New Education were accepted and a small committee, with Dr. Zakir Hussain as President and Sri Aryanaikam as Secretary, was appointed to prepare a tentative scheme and syllabus. The scheme prepared by this Committee was later accepted by the Indian National Congress and the Hindustani Talimi Sangh was formed. The first institution of basic education was then opened at Wardha for the training of teachers. The reports of the Select Committees of the various provincial governments published in 1939 accepted the recommendations of the Zakir Hussain Committee and by October of that year there were basic schools and basic training schools both under Government and under private educational institutions trying to work out the experiment of basic education in Kashmir, Delhi, the United Provinces, Bihar, Orissa,

the Central Province Bombay Madras and the State of Mysore Basic education flourished or languished as the struggle for independence made headway or suffered a setback

The first Basic Education Conference was held in October 1939 in an atmosphere of mingled hope and anxiety The second world war had just started and India had been made a party to it without her consent The Congress governments were on the eve of giving up office on that moral issue

Early in 1940 the provincial ministries resigned This had an immediate effect on the work already started The Adviser Governments in Orissa and in Madras stopped Basic education In the Central Provinces and Berar Bombay and other Provinces the work was discontinued The Bihar Government made a long and careful report on the work of the 27 Basic schools in Champaran District during 1940-41 and stated in conclusion Finally the total effect of Basic education as envisaged by the framers of the scheme should be the development of the whole personality of the child It is too early to pronounce any definite opinion in the *matter but we feel that the results so far achieved in* various directions mark notable advancement towards the goal The Bihar Government carried on the work according to plan In Orissa the work was taken up by a private body the Utkal Maulik Shiksha Parishad and was carried on till 1942 when all basic school teachers in Orissa were imprisoned

In spite of many difficulties the Hindustani Talimi Sangh at Sevagram, Jamia Millia Islamia in Delhi and a few other national institutions carried on the experiment in full faith.

During the political struggle of 1942-45 basic education institutions were closed, workers were in jail and it seemed for a while that basic education was out of the picture. Yet during this dark period *Nai Talim* was born anew.

Gandhiji came out of his detention in Aga Khan palace with a new vision of *Nai Talim*. He said: "I have been thinking hard during the detention over the possibilities of *Nai Talim* until my mind became restive. We must not rest content with our present achievements. We must penetrate into the homes of the children. We must educate their parents. Basic education must become literally education for life." The second chapter in the history of *Nai Talim* begins with this illuminating definition of it as being coextensive with life itself.

It was felt necessary at this stage that workers engaged in constructive work and specially basic education should meet together to try and understand this new interpretation of *Nai Talim*. Gandhiji opened the Conference at Sevagram in January 1945 with the following words: "So far we were in the protected bay, our scope of work was well defined; today we are being thrown from this sheltered bay into the open

ocean. In the open ocean our only guidance is the pole-star of rural handicrafts. Now our scope is no longer limited to the child between seven and fourteen. *Nai Talim* or New Education has extended its scope to the whole span of life from the moment of conception to the hour of death.

The next task before the workers of basic education was to work out the conception of *Nai Talim* as education for life through life into an educational programme. This programme was naturally divided into four parts according to the four stages of life.

1. Adult education or education of men and women at all stages of life including the care and education of expectant and nursing mothers.

2. Pre-basic education or the education of children under seven.

3. Basic education or the education of children from seven to fourteen.

4. Post-basic education or the education of adolescents who have completed basic education.

Four Committees were appointed by the Conference to prepare and revise schemes of education for these four stages of life. The village of Sevagram was chosen as the first field for work on a complete programme of *Nai Talim*.

A pre-basic school was opened in the Sevagram village. Adult education was also started closely co-ordinated with the pre-basic education and with the following objective:

The aim and object of adult education is to educate the village adults to lead better, fuller and richer lives both as individuals and as social units.

The next stage is the education of boys and girls between seven and fifteen. This work is carried on by the basic school at Sevagram as well as in the Provinces.

In January 1947 the students at Sevagram and at Champaran completed seven years of basic education. Post-basic schools were opened for these boys at Kumarbagh and Sevagram in that year.

The third chapter of basic education began in 1946 with the formation of the Interim Government at the Centre. Basic education was revived in the Provinces. More provincial governments have accepted the policy of converting by stages all the primary schools into basic schools.

The statistics of the spread of basic education in Bihar are given below. In other Provinces also the

trend of progre hi followel i imilar pattern

Y	Ba S h o.s	P pil	P s' B S h ls	P pils	Ba i Tr i i g P pils S h l	
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1J11	-	36 J			1	11
1J1 4	36	"	J	11 i	i	181
194" 48		09	1	1		0
1918 4J	100	11 0	1	-4	13	946

Bi 19 1 - Bihar proposes t have 3 Basic Train ing School t0 multiliteral 1o t Basic School and 1 i00 full fledge l f i n s h ls for hildren from 6 t 1 years as a preliminary t the spre l l of universal basic education with corr p nding higher po t basic university and techn l l al e lucation

In pite f man difficulties basic education has ma le te ly pr re As Na Talim is a programme of nationwide e lucation it an nly be put into effect by tho e in charge f national e lu ation Yet we must admit with re ret that the experience of the past f w years indicates that the existing machinery of e luca tion fin ls it difficult to a ljust it elf to this e lucational revolution And there is alw ys a ten lency to compro mise with the exi ting stan lard an l metho ls Thi has given rise to a certain amount of disappointm nt among constructive workers But with the co operati n

M ltil l post b school One m ltilate l school i q l to 3 ll t l on

of the Central and provincial governments it is possible to justify Gandhiji's claim that *Nai Talim* does not depend on money, but is self sufficient We can fulfil his dream of the happy and healthy village which has real wealth derived from the cooperative effort of *Nai Talim*

CULTURAL FRONT

UNDER ideal economic conditions perhaps creative endeavour can be a source of joy and inspiration. But as it is, moments free from [illegible] are those that we spend in repose and relaxation, entertaining ourselves, seeking joyous self-expression. The arts, music and the dance, even the [illegible] can more often provide a more reliable index to the state of the nation than the economist's statistics or the politician's platitudes. Art may be a luxury, but even so it is primarily a mirror that reflects social reality, though sometimes in a somewhat distorted shape.

As reflected in their art, the Indian people in the second year of their freedom were still in search of their soul or collective national genius. The important thing is not that they have yet to find it — which might mean *they* [illegible] — but that they are actively seeking it. It is only now that the wounds of the spirit caused by the mass frenzy and hate storm of 1947

By Sri K. AHMAD ABBAS

have begun to heal and creative minds can feel comparatively free from the stultifying hangover of two centuries of their imperialist domination. A low standard of living and literacy, the prolonged neglect of creative activity, the decaying and crumbling age-old social values, all these are serious obstacles in the way of speedy cultural regeneration. But also they provide the challenge and the incentive to indomitable spirits who are struggling to achieve a satisfactory integration of new political and economic values with old indigenous culture.

Symptomatic of the resurgence of cultural activity has been the successful attempt made to link the large number of art organizations in the country to an All India Association of Fine Arts. At the third All India Art Conference held in July last year at Bombay, delegates from all over India representing as many as fifty-four different art organizations agreed to federate and form the All India Association of Fine Arts with the threefold object of promoting understanding and appreciation of art by means of exhibitions, lectures and the like, advising governments and other authorities regarding the selection of paintings, the establishment of art galleries and museums, and the grant of scholarship, and encouraging art and artists by organizing travelling exhibitions and generally fostering more frequent and intimate contact between artists and the community.

Since then, under the chairmanship of the well

known art critic C. Venkatachalam, the All India Association of Fine Arts has been represented at and co-operated with international cultural bodies like the UNESCO and has advised the Government in the selection of pictures. A series of exhibitions has been held in several major cities and it was and has helped to popularize a band of young and new painters like Ara, Hebbar, Chavda, Raza and Souza in Bombay; the Calcutta Group of artists in Bengal and Sanyal, Kanwal Krishna and Khastgir (the sculptor) in the North.

The most important exhibition was the one held in a wing of what was hitherto the Viceregal Lodge in New Delhi. This was the first time that such a representative and exhaustive exhibition of Indian art through the ages was held anywhere in India and it attracted large crowds, many of whom had their first glimpse of the art heritage of their country. In fact, keen disappointment was felt in the other large cities like Bombay, Calcutta and Madras that such a unique exhibition was not sent travelling.

While Jamini Roy has received deserved attention from art critics and connoisseurs in Europe and America, it is significant that with the advent of freedom the work of an increasing number of young Indian painters and sculptors has been appreciated abroad. Hebbar, Shankho Chaudhurie, Nirode Mazumdar and Chintamoni Kar are some of those who have been touring the West to study modern technique

Hebbar's exhibition evoked great interest in London and Shankho Chaudhuri's paintings and Chintamani Kar's sculptures have received favourable comments from critics abroad. Indian art and artists are getting known abroad through such art journals as *Marg* (Bombay), *Silpi* (Madras) and *Ruplekha* (Delhi).

The increased interest in art is reflected in the recent publication of several important albums and art books—Roerich's *Abode of Light*, G. Venkatachalam's two art books, Hebbar's album and Achrekar's work on form in Indian sculpture.

In the realm of music, the biggest event was the Music Conference held at Baroda on the occasion of the birthday of the Maharaja. There have been few music conferences or congregations of great musicians nor has the traditional placid flow of classical Indian music been disturbed so far by any daring experiment or innovation in orchestral technique. The recent orchestration of national songs for military bands, however, may lead to further experiments in this direction.

All the provincial governments and education departments are giving special encouragement to cultural centres, music colleges and to the teaching of music. The future composers of India will be trained in these institutions to revolutionize Indian music by adapting the imperishable classical techniques to the needs of today. The acquisition of a large number of

recordings of Indian music by the Library of Congress of the U. S. A. reveals growing foreign interest in Indian culture in general and Indian music in particular.

The radio is playing an important role in disseminating popular as well as classical music to the vast and increasing number of urban and rural listeners. In contrast with the film which has almost completely surrendered to popular taste in music, the radio makes a gallant effort to maintain a balance between classical and popular music.

It is noteworthy that since the advent of freedom the radio has achieved a measure of popularity which it did not possess in the previous regime. The appearance at the microphone of national leaders like the Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has given the radio a new significance for the mass of listeners who were once indifferent to it. The running commentaries on national events, the fire-side chats by leaders whose names and personalities are familiar in every Indian household, the increasing time given to programmes in Hindustani and other provincial languages, the rural and school broadcasts—have contributed to the increasing popularity of radio broadcasts.

Despite the increasing number of listeners (especially through community sets in villages) the radio has yet to make a decisive contribution to the cultural renaissance of the country. The multilingual character

of many stations, the Hindi-Hindustani controversy, the limited budgets at the disposal of programme organizers, the serious lack of good radio plays and the legacy of bureaucratic control of a cultural medium handed down from the previous regime, are only some of the factors which have prevented the full exploitation of the radio. It is possible that decentralization and the development of each station as the mouthpiece of one distinct regional culture and language will make the radio the vital medium of popular cultural activity that it deserves to be.

Even the film, the most commercialized of all the arts and least amenable to creative cultural trends, shows signs of a slow renaissance. The removal of censorship devised in imperialist interests has given an impetus to the production of films on patriotic themes—though there is an unfortunate tendency to glamourize and exploit rather than depict creatively such events of national history as 1857, the 1942 struggle, the I.N.A. adventures, the tribulations of the refugees and the like. What is more hopeful, however, is the slowly growing number of films like *Kalpana*, *Neecha Nagar*, *Meera* and *Chhota Bhai* which are written, produced and directed on a higher and more refined level of artistic perception.

The compulsory exhibition of newsreels and educational shorts in all cinemas is bound to have a salutary effect both on the content and the technique of Indian films. The documentary film is still an innovation but

its future is full of promise. More than one provincial government is using this popular medium to spread mass education.

On the dance front it is a paradoxical fact that while very little activity is noticeable in India, Indian dancers are phenomenally popular abroad. Ram Gopal, Mrinalini Sarabhai and Shivaram have been touring Europe and America with great success. Uday Shanker with a new ballet troupe is shortly embarking on yet another tour of the West and is assured of a warm welcome from the multitude of his admirers in England and the U.S.A.

In several parts of India, especially in the South, classical dance forms like *Kathakali* and *Bharat Natyam* and the popular folk dance traditions are acquiring a new dynamic content and a note of [illegible] and protest.

Years of planning and creative work of coordination and integration lie ahead. But culturally India is doubtless on the march and the direction that our cultural development is taking and is likely to take is becoming increasingly clear.

THE MINORITIES IN INDIA

THE generally recognized minority communities of India are the Muslims, the Scheduled Castes, the Christians, the Sikhs, the Anglo-Indians and the Parsis. These communities have also been recognized as the minorities in the Draft Constitution which is in the penultimate stage of finalization. While liberal guarantees have rightly been given to the scheduled castes, it is possible that they will be taken out of the list of minorities, as it is felt that they are essentially an integral part of the Hindu community.

The minority question has represented for many years one of the most intractable problems in the Indian political arena. All manner of reasons have been ascribed for the emergence of this problem and the complexities which it assumed. I do not propose to attempt to analyse the causes of the minority problem in India. I feel that it is sufficient to say that

[illegible]

while minority problems can be artificially engendered or stimulated the basic cause of minority problems everywhere is a real one This basic cause is fear No amount of argument or casuistry can efface the fact that a minority will always live in fear and will as the result of that fear take certain action so long as real conditions of equality of treatment and of opportunity do not exist This is part of the fundamental law of survival

The terrible climax to India's minorities problem namely the vivisection of the country and the tragic aftermath of death and destruction have inevitably jolted the minorities in the new India into a grim realization of the need for understanding compromise and statesmanship

The Constitution which is likely to be proclaimed in January 1950 contains ample and deliberate guarantees on behalf of India's minorities The Articles on general fundamental rights which are justiciable represent the best guarantee not only of the rights of all citizens but also of the special position of the minorities Apart from the general rights given to citizens guaranteeing equality of opportunity and the right to freedom of speech assembly and movement Article 13 and onwards give some more vital rights particularly to the minorities The [illegible] Article guarantees freedom of conscience and the right particularly to profess practise and propagate religion freedom to manage

religious affairs and to own, acquire and administer properties for religious charitable purposes.

Article 29 gives to any section of citizens having a distinct language, script or culture of its own the right to conserve the same. Article 30 (1) gives to all minorities whether based on religion or language the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice.

Part XVI of the Constitution contains special provisions relating to the minorities. I can assert, as the accredited leader of the Anglo-Indian community that Anglo-Indians have been granted provisions in this section which are of a uniquely generous character. It will thus be seen that in so far as the Constitution is concerned the most careful sanctions have been provided on behalf of the minority communities. I feel that in writing of these guarantees a tribute is due both to the members of the majority community and to the representatives of the minorities.

The provisions on behalf of the minorities were hammered out in the special Advisory Committee set up to deal with the fundamental and minority rights. The Chairman of this Committee was Sardar Patel. The work of this Committee will, I feel, represent a landmark in the history of minority relations. The formulæ which have been embodied in the Constitution emanated from this Committee. A striking feature was that all these provisions had the seal of unanimous

approval of the Advisory Committee It will thus be seen that these provisions have been arrived at as the result of compromise and friendly understanding between all the parties concerned So much for written guarantees

It is axiomatic that the ultimate guarantee to any minority lies not so much in documents or verbal professions, but in the spirit which animates society and the State There is no doubt that India has set as her goal the achievement of secular democracy Fortunately, India has leaders of immense stature who have not only announced this goal but fervently believe in it With them, I feel that India will achieve her full stature and her appropriate destiny as a secular democratic State

As far as the Muslim minority is concerned the problem is inevitably different from that of the other Indian minorities With the best will in the world it is impossible to separate this problem from the recent tragic political happenings and the inevitable emergence of certain complexes and attitudes As for the Muslim minority it must be admitted that the tragic aftermath of partition and the holocaust in life and property have seared the memory and embittered the outlook of many millions of sufferers in the Indian Union But it must be said to the credit of the leaders that from this smouldering heap of hatred and bitterness they have been able to wrest not only the personal safety but very considerable opportunity for the

millions of Muslims in India who only yesterday were working for and talking of Pakistan as their homeland. Muslims have not only safety and equality of opportunity but in some Provinces are among the most prosperous and wealthy section of the Indian people, going about their daily business and adding to their prosperity without let or hindrance.

The other minorities fortunately are not presented with this peculiar complication. While comparisons are odious, we are bound to say that there is no comparison between the treatment of the minorities in India and the treatment of the minorities in Pakistan. In Pakistan, an avowedly theocratic State, the minorities have not received any adequate representation in their Central Legislature and details are still awaited as to what guarantees, if any, will be granted to them in the Constitution.

With the generous guarantees in the Fundamental Rights section and by the provisions in the Chapter on Minority Rights, the Indian minorities look forward confidently to a future full of opportunity.

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